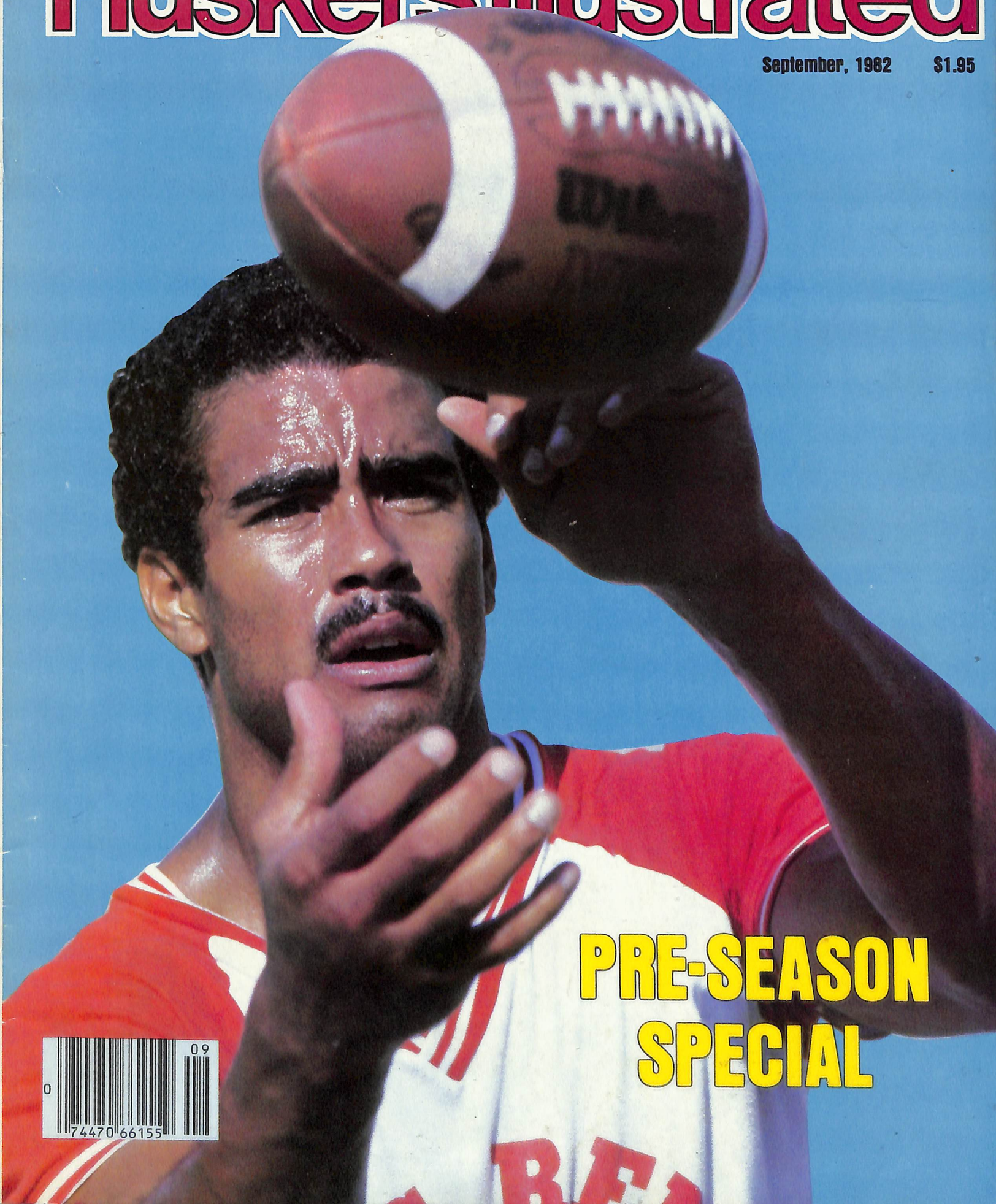


Huskers Illustrated

September, 1982

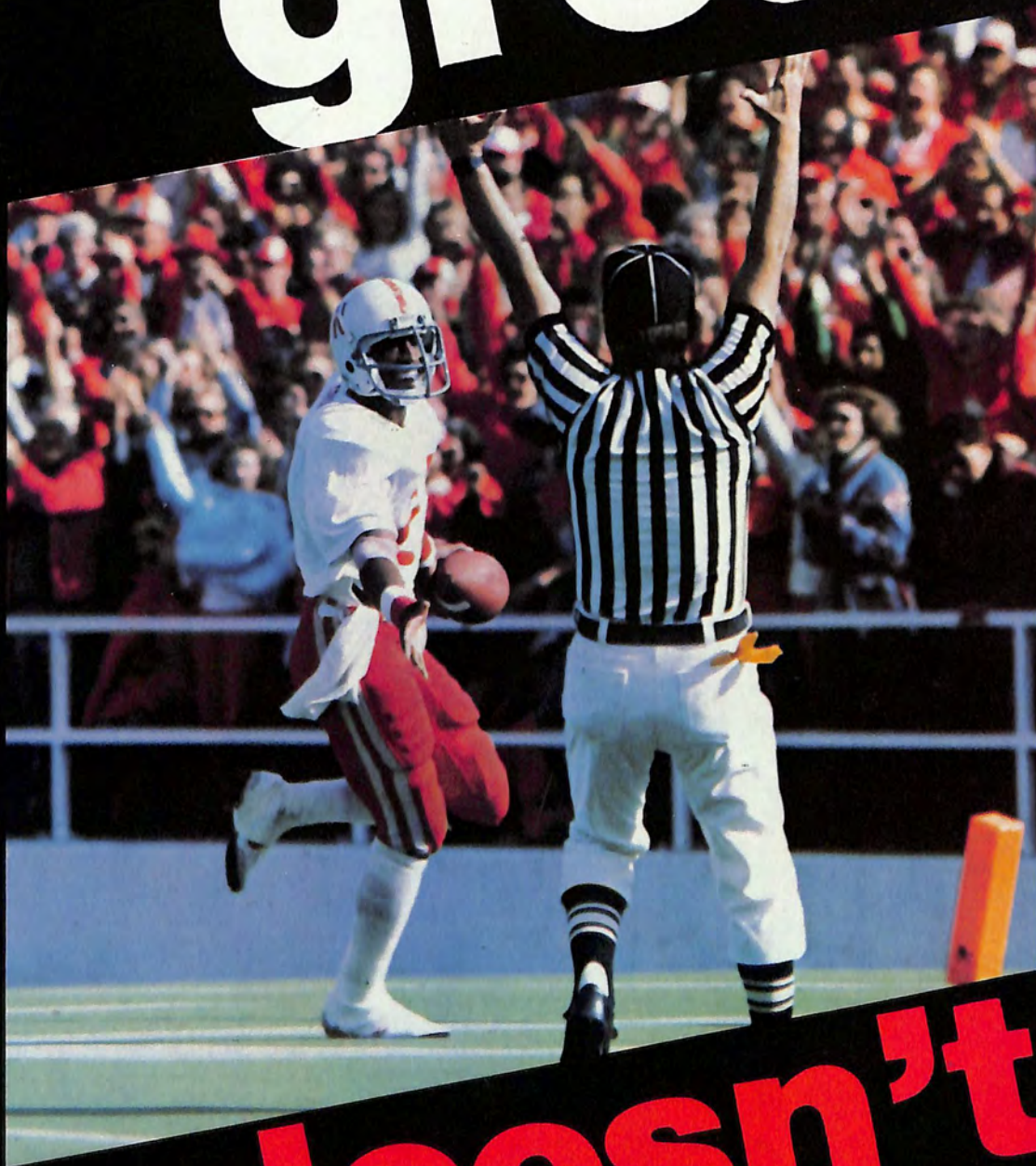
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on the cover...

Cornerback Allen Lyday glistens with sweat during a midsummer workout. A growing number of Huskers remains in Lincoln during the summer months to gather at Memorial Stadium for informal conditioning sessions. Photographer Randy Hampton captured the moment.

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Huskers Illustrated

'Suspects' In NU Secondary Can't Wait To Prove Selves

Van Norman, who followed an established route, and Lyday, who took a roundabout trail, take the Husker work ethic a step beyond.

Allen Lyday and Kris Van Norman had become increasingly defensive about Nebraska's defensive backs as the sultry summer weeks dragged by and football season approached with maddening tedium.

For months, they had been hearing and reading that the Cornhuskers will be terrific if the defense is up to snuff, and the defense will be okay if the secondary doesn't disintegrate.

They had long since lost their humor with Defensive Coordinator Charlie McBride's oft-repeated chide that the DBs were "small, slow and friendly." Even though they correctly suspected that McBride used the phrase for them alone as a prod and referred to them elsewhere in more complimentary terms.

Cornerback Lyday and monster-safety Van Norman, as the most experienced hands in the secondary and senior ringleaders among the defensive backs, were taking it all personally. They couldn't wait to get on with it.

"I sit at home and go nuts. I just want to get it going to prove the press is wrong. That's all we think about while working out," Lyday said after a midsummer workout.

"Everybody says we're a 'suspect' secondary. We've been put down so much. Everybody's been worried about the defensive backs. We're tired of it," Van Norman said.

They admit that the questions are natural. After all, the four seniors who played most of the time in the secondary that led the nation in





pass defense last year — Jeff Krejci, Sammy Sims, Rodney Lewis and Ric Lindquist — were gone.

But that didn't make the questioning any more palatable.

Consequently, Van Norman and Lyday, with their secondary mates joining them in varying degrees of commitment, maintained a near-obsession summer training regimen. They joked about looking forward to fall camp two-a-day practices, normally abhorred by players, so they could ease up.

Usually, the secondary was extraordinarily well represented — Tim Holbrook, Jim Murphy, Davie Burke, Mike McCashland, Tim Peterson, Neil Harris, Pat Larsen, Kent McCallum. Safety Bret Clark drove in many nights from Nebraska City.

Always, there were Lyday and Van Norman, pressuring the others by example.

"Last year, the seniors didn't push the younger players like we have," Lyday said. "We've been getting on them. Sometimes, they just want to lift weights, then split. We make sure they're out here for one-on-ones.

"We feel it's part of our duty to get together as a unit, get used to working with each other. If you've got a guy who hasn't shown up all summer, you're a little leary of him, not knowing if he can hold up his end."

Through the summer, McBride sent

his defensive players letters reminding them that "each pound you lift and each mile you run, you have to pay the price to be the best," Van Norman said.

He and Lyday took the boss seriously. Besides the standard evening sessions and regular weight lifting, they and tight end Mitch Krenk adopted the Pittsburgh Steelers' sprint workout, brought back from a Steelers' training camp by ex-Husker quarterback Jeff Quinn.

During the heat of the day, their routine included:

- Ten 100-yard dashes at $\frac{3}{4}$ ths speed with 15 seconds in between.

- Rest for 1½ minutes.

- Eight 80s with 12 seconds between.

- Same rest.

- Six 60s with eight seconds between.

- Rest.

- Four 40s full blast, separated by four seconds.

"Then we run the stadium steps," Lyday said.

"Then we go throw up," Van Norman quipped. "Physically, it's more demanding than two-a-days, but there's no mental work involved."

Lyday, Van Norman and their crew made a believer out of Secondary Coach Bob Thornton last spring, at least in their ability to attack. "I think we surprised him a little," Lyday said. "We proved in the spring that we were aggressive. As a group, we're a little dif-

ferent kind of players than he was used to. Jeff and Ric and those guys were great technique players, but they weren't as physical."

Lyday has been surprising people since he arrived in Lincoln. Van Norman took a more orthodox route; he was a scholarshiper out of Minden, Neb., a running back and linebacker projected as a monster or free safety. As a junior, he was Sims' alternate.

There was no projection for Lyday. He did not start for his high school team at Wichita South. He spent a year at Texas Southern as a backup punter. He walked on at Nebraska as a wrestler.

"He couldn't play for Texas Southern, and he's starting for us?" McBride asked incredulously. He meant it as a compliment.

During the summer, Lyday's off-season work bore fruit with "one of our most impressive records," Strength Coach Boyd Epley said. It was an incredible 39-inch vertical jump.

Lyday split time as a starting corner with Lewis last year and is the most experienced holdover. He and Van Norman tied Lindquist with three interceptions, one behind Krejci.

Lyday was a non-recruited 160-pounder in football out of Wichita South, where he was a state wrestling champion. He admits that he was given a scholarship to Texas Southern, sight-unseen, only because Head Coach



Curt Hineline (74) leads the tackle parade against Florida State in this early key action from the 1981 Nebraska season.

Wendell Mosely, a former Oklahoma assistant, was his cousin.

Mosely let him punt in only one game, and Lyday averaged 48 yards on four punts. When his father died during his freshman year, Lyday wanted to be closer to his mother. Since Husker Wrestling Coach Bob Fehrs had expressed an interest, he transferred to Nebraska as a walk-on wrestler.

But he had to give football one last shot. He was encouraged by his progress on the scout team that fall, and he dropped wrestling after three weeks.

"I saw I could play for Nebraska. I talked to the veterans, and they said my best chance of making it would be to go through the winter conditioning program. I'd get bigger and stronger," Lyday said.

As he progressed, Lyday set the school vertical jump record at 36½ inches last winter. During the summer, defensive end Tony Felici hit 36 inches.

"I told Allen that Felici was going to break his record," Epley said. "Five minutes later, he went in and did 37½."

The next week, during a photo session for a pictorial record, Lyday jumped 38 inches, then 39. "That's the best ever by anyone in the Big Eight," Epley said.

Along the way, Lyday, Van Norman et al have allayed the concerns of their teammates. Veteran offensive guard Mike Mandelko, who tested the new secondary in the spring, said:

"The big question is the backs, but they played better in the spring than a lot of the teams we played that had been together three or four years. I think they're going to be as good or better than last year. I really believe it."

With the final exams still to come for the secondary this fall, a veteran offense has stamped Nebraska as a solid favorite to repeat as champions of the Big Eight and a serious challenger for the ultimate national plum. Especially since center Dave Rimington, the most celebrated Husker and Outland Trophy winner, dismissed thoughts of turning pro and returned in style last spring.

"We'd have been hurt if he'd left, but it wouldn't have been a lost cause," said Mandelko, who lined up to Rimington's left part-time as a sophomore and full time last year. "Brad Johnson (backup center) could start for most teams.

"It makes you more confident with Dave back because you know when you go down on a double-team, you know



Kris Van Norman

it's going to be a good one."

With Mandelko, Rimington, three-year tackle Randy Theiss and all-Big Eight tight end Jamie Williams, Nebraska will have a rare luxury in experience in the offensive line.

"I suppose we're a little ahead of schedule. We all know what everybody is going to do. But we have a lot of work ahead of us. We can't rely on the past," Mandelko said.

Rimington apparently hasn't.

"Davie probably had the best spring he ever had," Line Coach Milt Tenopir said. "Subconsciously, I think he felt he was going to be watched closely. He took all doubts about his wanting to play here out of everybody's minds. He had a great spring."

Said Rimington, who was the Big Eight's offensive player of the year and outpooled No. 1 pro draft choice Kenneth Sims of Texas for the Outland Trophy:

"I just made a more conscious effort to show the coaches I wanted to play. After going through what I did last winter, they might have thought I was just biding my time. I wanted them to know I wanted to play for Nebraska. For a couple of weeks I was almost like a cheerleader out there.

"It was a wise decision to stay. The

bottom line was, it was my best chance to finish up my education. I'll be proud when I get my degree. It would have been tougher to decide if I had my degree, but I've got to believe I would have stuck around.

"If I would have left, I would be leaving a place where I loved to play and where they've been fair to me. I felt like I would have been cheating them a little bit."

So with their triggerman back in the fold at center, a seasoned line, all-star runners in Roger Craig and Mike Rozier, an optimistic outlook for the return of all-Big Eight quarterback Turner Gill after a mystifying leg injury and secondary, though inexperienced, demonstrating the best in the Husker work ethic, Nebraska will baptize a new season with high expectations Sept. 11 at home against Iowa.

Mandelko, a senior from Lexington, summed it up:

"Possibly and probably, it's the last year of football for a lot of us, and we want to go out on a good note. The national championship is in everybody's blood because we came so close last year.

"Now we have that killer instinct. The goal is to come out of the season with a diamond on our fingers." ●

1982 NEBRASKA FOOTBALL ROSTER

No	Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Class	Hometown
1	Tom Curry	WB	5-9	162	Jr	Lincoln, Ne
2	Mike McCashland	M	6-1	190	So	Lincoln, Ne
3	Pat Larsen	S	6-0	185	Sr	Fullerton, Ne
4	David Haase	S	5-11	182	Jr	Aurora, Ne
5	Ricky Greene	CB	5-9	178	So	Seminole, Tx
6	Todd Fisher	CB	6-0	185	So	Omaha, Ne
7	Ricky Simmons	SE	5-10	170	Jr	Greenville, Tx
8	Nate Mason	QB	6-1	195	Jr	Greenville, Tx
9	Mark Hagerman	K	5-11	180	Sr	Ainsworth, Ne
10	Bret Clark	S	6-2	188	So	Nebraska City, Ne
11	Neil Harris	CB	6-0	190	So	Kansas City, Mo
12	Turner Gill	QB	6-1	183	Jr	Ft. Worth, Tx
13	Kevin Biggers	CB	6-0	185	Jr	Los Angeles, Ca
14	Travis Turner	QB	6-3	200	So	Scottsbluff, Ne
15	Craig Sundberg	QB	6-1	200	So	Lincoln, Ne
16	Jim Murphy	CB	5-10	195	Jr	Lexington, Ne
17	Shane Swanson	WB	5-11	195	So	Hershey, Ne
18	Allen Lyday	CB	5-10	185	Sr	Wichita, Ks
19	Bruce Mathison	QB	6-4	201	Sr	Superior, Wis
21	Roger Craig	IB	6-2	211	Sr	Davenport, Ia
22	Tom Vergith	SE	6-0	190	Sr	Lincoln, Ne
23	Tim Holbrook	M	5-10	183	Sr	Lexington, Ne
24	Grant Campbell	P	6-1	185	Sr	Southfield, Mich
25	Mark Schellen	FB	5-9	245	Jr	Waterloo, Ne
26	Tom Rathman	FB	6-2	208	So	Grand Island, Ne
27	Irving Fryar	WB	6-0	190	Jr	Mount Holly, NJ
28	Jeff Smith	IB	5-11	180	So	Wichita, Ks
29	Todd Brown	SE	6-0	173	Sr	Holdrege, Ne
30	Mike Rozier	IB	5-11	205	Jr	Camden, NJ
31	Randy Huebert	WB	5-11	185	Jr	Henderson, Ne
32	Tim Brungardt	IB	6-0	205	Jr	Norfolk, Ne
33	Dave Burke	CB	6-0	200	So	Layton, Ut
34	Doug Wilkening	FB	6-2	210	Jr	Littleton, Co
35	Steve Damkroger	LB	6-1	235	Sr	Lincoln, Ne
38	Kris Van Norman	M	6-0	195	Sr	Minden, Ne
39	Jim Thompson	WB	5-9	170	So	Blair, Ne
40	Mark Moravec	FB	6-2	208	Sr	David City, Ne
41	Pete Hill	DE	6-1	190	So	Omaha, Ne
42	Scott Schoettger	SE	5-7	150	So	Lincoln, Ne
43	Dan Ripa	LB	5-11	203	So	Omaha, Ne
44	Mike Knox	LB	6-2	230	So	Castle Rock, Co
45	Steve McWhirter	LB	6-2	235	Sr	Fairfield, Ia
46	Tony Felici	DE	6-1	205	Sr	Omaha, Ne
47	Dan Wingard	K/SE	6-2	185	So	Omaha, Ne

48	Brent Evans	LB	6-2	225	Sr	Chesterfield, Mo
49	Kevin Seibel	K	6-2	240	Sr	Vermillion, SD
50	Dave Rimington	C	6-3	280	Sr	Omaha, Ne
51	Mark Daum	LB	6-3	211	So	Dix, Ne
52	Ken Graeber	MG	6-1	238	So	Minneapolis, Min
53	Anthony Thomas	OG	6-2	275	So	San Francisco, Ca
54	Brad Muehling	C	5-11	212	Jr	Lincoln, Ne
55	Brad Johnson	C	6-2	243	Sr	Harvard, Ne
56	Dan Weed	C	6-0	210	So	Lincoln, Ne
57	Mark Traynowicz	OT	6-5	253	So	Bellevue, Ne
58	Harry Grimminger	OG	6-3	271	So	Grand Island, Ne
59	Scott McLaughlin	OG	6-1	250	So	Houston, Tx
61	Mike Keeler	DT	6-3	242	Jr	Omaha, Ne
62	John Reinhardt	MG	6-0	225	Jr	Littleton, Co
63	Doug Herrmann	DT	6-3	259	Jr	Custer, SD
64	Mike Tranmer	MG	5-10	220	Jr	Lyons, Ne
65	Randy Theiss	OT	6-3	256	Sr	St. Louis, Mo
66	John Sherlock	OT	6-2	248	Jr	Omaha, Ne
67	Greg Orton	OG	6-2	230	So	Nebraska City, Ne
68	Mike Mandelko	OG	6-1	255	Sr	Lexington, Ne
69	Kurt Glatthar	OG	6-2	250	Sr	Lincoln, Ne
70	Jeff Kwapick	OT	6-3	254	Sr	Circle Pines, Minn
71	Dein Steinkuhler	OG	6-3	250	Jr	Burr, Ne
72	Scott Raridon	OT	6-4	253	Jr	Mason City, Ia
73	Mark Behning	OT	6-7	261	So	Denton, Tx
74	Jeff Merrell	MG	6-4	258	Sr	Huntsville, Ala
75	Rob Stuckey	DT	6-3	250	So	Lexington, Ne
76	Kevin Waechter	DT	6-3	245	Jr	Epworth, Ia
77	Tom Morrow	OT	6-4	250	So	Lincoln, Ne
80	Jamie Williams	TE	6-4	227	Sr	Davenport, Ia
82	Eric Buchanan	DE	6-1	202	So	Overland Park, Ks
83	Monte Engebretson	TE	6-2	205	Jr	Hastings, Ne
84	Dan Hill	TE	6-3	225	Sr	Falls City, Ne
85	Wade Praeuner	DE	5-11	210	Jr	Battle Creek, Ne
86	Dave Ridder	DE	6-2	204	Jr	West Point, Ne
87	Bill Weber	DE	6-2	210	So	Lincoln, Ne
88	Scott Kimball	SE	6-0	190	So	Camarillo, Ca
89	Mitch Krenk	TE	6-3	225	Sr	Nebraska City, Ne
90	Scott Strasburger	DE	6-2	202	So	Holdrege, Ne
92	Don Bourn	TE	6-3	200	So	Ponca, Ne
93	Tom Gdowski	DT	6-3	252	Sr	Fullerton, Ne
97	Toby Williams	DT	6-4	255	Sr	Washington, DC

1982 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Place
Sept. 11	Iowa	Lincoln
Sept. 18	New Mexico St	Lincoln
Sept. 25	Penn State	State College
Oct. 2	Auburn	Auburn
Oct. 9	Colorado	Boulder
Oct. 16	Kansas State	Lincoln
Oct. 23	Missouri	Lincoln
Oct. 30	Kansas	Lawrence
Nov. 6	Oklahoma State	Lincoln
Nov. 13	Iowa State	Ames
Nov. 26	Oklahoma	Lincoln
Dec. 4	Hawaii	Hawaii

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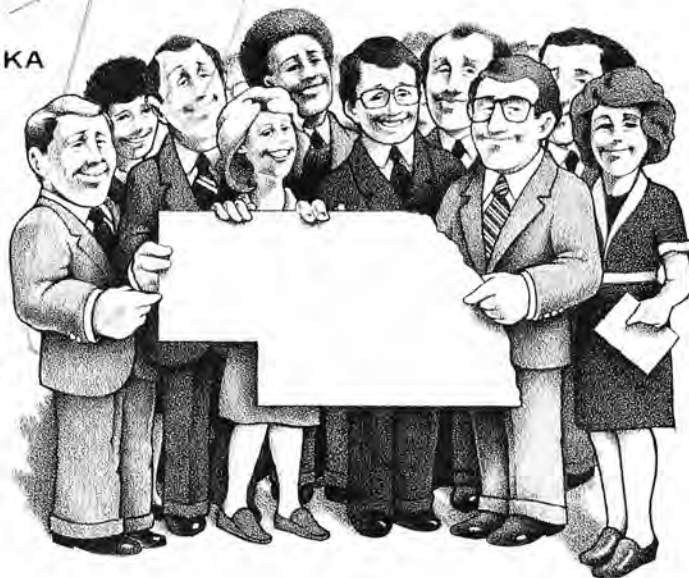


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The race for the 1982 Heisman Trophy should be an exciting one from the very first week of the season until the final voting. Two of the leading contenders heading into the campaign are Pittsburgh quarterback Dan Marino (above) and Georgia tailback Herschel Walker.

**Text By
WAYNE BISHOP**

NATIONAL

Will It The Pass or The

*Heisman voters will have
making a choice between
Herschel Walker — or*

Herschel Walker is the greatest college football player in America today, or at least that's what a lot of experts have been saying for the past couple of years. The nonpareil tailback from Georgia exploded on the college scene as a freshman when he rushed for 1,616 yards and led the Bulldogs to a national championship.

But there were too many Heisman Trophy voters who felt a freshman should not receive that coveted award. They went for South Carolina's George Rogers, who proved the voters knew a little about football when he stormed the National Football League last fall.

So the nation waited last year to see if Walker would become the first sophomore to win the Heisman. He certainly did nothing to make anyone think he didn't deserve the award, rushing for 1,891 yards and continuing to set school, Southeast Conference and national records.

But Marcus Allen of Southern Cal was busy setting a few records of his own, and the USC tailback kept the Heisman from Herschel by a 1,797-1,199 vote margin. All Allen had to do was set an NCAA mark of 2,342 yards rushing to win the honor.

So the 1982 season is just a few hot, humid days away from the opening kickoff and Herschel Walker is still looking for a Heisman Trophy. Will he make it this fall?

Not without a battle. Although only three others of last year's Top 10 in the Heisman voting return along with

Be

Run?

*a tough time
Dan Marino and
John Elway?*



Walker, there are some legitimate contenders who will make the Georgia touchdown machine earn anything he gets.

Most often mentioned as Heisman types in 1982 have been Pittsburgh quarterback Dan Marino, Stanford slinger John Elway, Michigan wide receiver Anthony Carter, Southern Mississippi quarterback Reggie Collier and Miami of Florida passer Jim Kelley. Also given an outside shot are Tony Eason, the quarterback who led Illinois back to football respect last year; Mike Rozier, Roger Craig and Dave Rimington of Nebraska (Rimington with the best chance of any interior linemen in several years to win a Heisman after running off with the Outland Trophy last year as a junior); Penn State halfback Curt Warner; North Carolina runner Kelvin Bryant and Oklahoma running back Stanley Wilson. Rozier is the only junior among the top contenders.

While all of those leading candidates for college football's highest honor are from major football powers (with the possible exception of Collier, as Southern Miss has only recently become known as a team to be taken seriously), don't forget that a large percentage of the players drafted each year by the NFL clubs play their college football away from all the television cameras and media hype surrounding schools from the Big Eight, Pac-10, Big 10, Southeast Conference, etc.

Last year, for example, 53 of the players selected in the first six rounds of the draft came from schools like Saginaw

Valley, Carson-Newman, Northwest Louisiana, Angelo State, East Carolina, Alabama State, Grambling, Nichols State, Pacific, Texas A&I, Salem, Wabash, Bethune-Cookman and even William & Mary. That compares with 112 players selected in those same six rounds from major schools and major conferences. So don't ever sell Azusa-Pacific, Alabama A&M or Bishop University short.

If this is not to be the year of Herschel Walker, it will more than likely be the year of the quarterback.

Marino may have the best shot at continuing Walker's frustration. Not only does he have the stats coming into his senior year, but he'll be playing for a team which many feel will win the national championship.

When Marino and Elway were being recruited four years ago, there were few who had seen both who could pick between them. West Coast fans thought there might have never been a greater quarterback prospect than Elway, the son of San Jose Coach Jack Elway. Ironically, it was a 24-6 loss to San Jose State last year in the second game that dampened much of the national enthusiasm for the Stanford record-setter in All-American and Heisman competition. Elway hit only six passes in 24 attempts for 72 yards, was intercepted five times by his father's team and sacked seven times.

Marino, meanwhile, was busy having a sizzling junior season. The 6-foot-4, 215-pounder made four All-American teams as the first-teamer, despite the presence of Brigham

Young's Jim McMahon and Ohio State's Art Schlichter. The Pittsburgh native completed 60 percent of his passes last fall (226 of 380) for 2,876 yards and 37 touchdowns. He already holds several Panther records.

One memory that is sure to stick in the minds of Heisman voters is the 1982 Sugar Bowl game in which Marino completed 26 passes for 261 yards and three touchdowns in a spectacular 26-20 comeback win over Georgia and Walker. His final TD toss came with 35 seconds left and covered 33 yards to kill any final hopes the Bulldogs might have had for a repeat national crown.

Marino already has 6,165 yards in the air (a school record) with his senior year to play. And he'll be operating with a veteran offensive line featuring two All-American candidates, as well as being able to throw to his two top receivers — Dwight Collins and Julius Dawkins.

Collins had a brilliant freshman season with 10 touchdowns on only 30 total receptions. He was injured much of last year, making way for Dawkins to have the kind of season that earned him All-American honors. That lethal combination of Marino to Collins and Dawkins should be phenomenal this fall. Tackles Jimbo Covert (6-5, 275) and Bill Fralic (6-5, 270) hub a line that will give Marino plenty of protection for a knee which was injured his sophomore season and required surgery before last fall.

Also making Marino's Heisman chances exceptional is the fact that Pitt will receive plenty of early national exposure. The Panthers had their game with North Carolina moved up to Thursday, Sept. 9, so that it may be televised nationally. That means Heisman voters will have been able to compare Marino to Walker and Bryant in back-to-back games, even if they are a few months apart. And Pitt will also meet Illinois (and Eason) on the road, Florida State at Tallahassee and later on Notre Dame and Penn State. Chances are the Panthers will be on the tube more than that one time against North Carolina, as the PSU clash is almost a certainty.

Walker will get his opening bid in for the 1982 Heisman Monday, Sept. 6, when Georgia challenges defending national champion Clemson in another nationally televised contest. The 6-2, 220 junior will be without quarterback Buck Belue for the first time since coming to Georgia, but the Bulldogs return the nucleus for a great offensive line.

Elway has as much support on the West Coast, however, as Marino does on the East. "Before he's out of school, Elway will definitely be a Heisman Trophy winner — he can't miss," said UCLA coach Terry Donahue when John was a sophomore. Oklahoma's Barry Switzer, whose team was ambushed in the rain by Elway two years ago, added, "John Elway put on the greatest exhibition of quarterback play and passing I have ever seen on this field."

There are several pro scouts who claim Elway is the best

quarterback prospect to come along in recent times — maybe ever. The 6-4, 202 aerial magician (he's also an adept scrambler) should wind up this year with every Stanford (and that covers a lot of great quarterbacks) and Pac-10 passing record. After a slow start last fall, he came back to pass for more than 200 yards in each of his last seven games in 1981. Since becoming a starter as a sophomore (he saw part-time duty as a freshman), he's topped 200 in 19 of 22 starts.

Last season Elway hit 58.4 percent of his passes (214 of 366) for 2,674 yards and 20 touchdowns. He has 6,107 yards through the air now in his career, with 53 career TD tosses. Elway burned Purdue last year on TV by hitting 33 of 44 passes for 418 yards, despite playing on a sprained ankle the second half. But his team lost, 27-19. That preceded the disastrous loss to his dad's team, 24-6, in which he failed to throw for a touchdown for the first time in 13 games. He also hit 13 of 18 passes in the final quarter against Ohio State and Schlichter as he rallied his team from a rout to a 24-19 loss. He nailed 21 of his last 27 passes in that contest. Against Arizona State he left the game with 8:10 left in the second quarter after connecting on 10 of 17 passes for 270 yards. As a sophomore Elway completed 248 passes for 27 touchdowns and 2,889 yards. His completion percentage that season was an amazing 65.4. He was 50 for 96 in limited action as a frosh, good for only 544 yards and six touchdowns.

Elway has already had a taste of pro money, as he signed a baseball contract with the New York Yankees and played this past summer in the Class A Oneonta, N.Y., farm club of the Yanks. He was one of the top collegiate outfielders around.

But Stanford's inability to contend for Pac-10 and national honors will hurt Elway's chances.

Another quarterback with eyes for the Heis is Miami's Kelly, a 6-3, 210 senior who was born not far from where Marino grew up. The Brady, Pa., native (he was born near Pittsburgh) completed 58.9 percent of his passes last fall and has guided the Hurricane to 9-3 and 9-2 seasons. They are expected to contend this year for a spot in the Top 10. Kelly hit on 109 of 206 passes as a sophomore and then came back to rifle home 168 of 285 last season for 2,403 yards and 14 touchdowns. His first collegiate start came mid-way of his freshman year when he led an upset of Penn State, 26-10. He shredded the Nittany Lions defense for 280 yards and three scores in that one, hitting 18 of 30 passes. He also took Miami past Penn State last year in a nationally televised game, 17-14, connecting on an 80-yarder that was the difference against the then No. 1 ranked team in the country.

Ironically, Penn State coach Joe Paterno tried to sign Kelly out of high school — but wanted him as a linebacker! Kelly, a great all-around athlete at East Brady High, wanted



Hancock, Tenn.



Marshall, Florida



Dawson, Texas



Raugh, W. Va.

to be a quarterback. Miami said "Come throw for us," and he did.

Illinois coach Mike White has helped develop some great quarterbacks in his career, which started at California and continued at Stanford as assistant coach before coming back to Cal as the head man. Among those he's groomed were Craig Morton, Jim Plunkett, Mike Boryla, Steve Bartkowski, Vince Ferragamo, Joe Roth, Rich Campbell and Dave Wilson at Illinois.

And White has another pro prototype now in Eason, a 6-4, 205 senior who transferred in from a California junior college last year and proceeded to burn up the Big 10 Conference. Eason threw 406 times and completed 248 of those for a 61.1 percentage, 3,360 yards and 20 touchdowns. He had seven games with more than 300 yards passing, which set not only a single season Big 10 mark but also a career record — and it was just his first year in the league!

"Tony is in the same class with all the other great quarter-



John Elway, Stanford

backs I've been associated with," says White. "What makes him unique is that he's such an athlete. He's an All-American. He has a pro's arm and the kind of mobility they drool over."

Eason will have an opportunity to match passes with Marino Sept. 25 in Champaign, Ill. There could be close to 100 passes in the air that day. And the Illinois quarterback welcomes back all-Big 10 performers Mike Martin and Oliver Williams at the wide receiver spots. Between them they caught passes for more than 1,400 yards last fall.

If you haven't found what you're looking

for in a quarterback yet, just continue reading. The well won't run dry for quite a spell.

Although Collier resembles the other All-American candidates in stature (6-4, 210), he is built from another mold when it comes to his playing style. The youngster who led Southern Miss to football prominence (just ask Alabama) became the first quarterback in NCAA history to top 1,000 yards in both rushing and passing. His career logging now stands at 2,397 in the air and 1,501 on the land. And he'll be guiding a team which returns 16 starters this season.

The top junior quarterback may be Purdue's Scott Campbell, who threw for 2,686 yards in 1981 on 185 of 321, good for 18 touchdowns. Some of the pressure should be off the 6-foot, 194-pounder from Hershey, Pa. (they do know how to turn out quarterbacks in that state) with the arrival of juco tailback Mel Gray, who performed so well in the spring that he won the job from three-year starter Jim-

my Smith. The latter moved to fullback.

Mississippi State has another deluxe underclassman in junior quarterback John Bond (6-4, 205), who runs the option to near perfection. Bond has 2,783 yards in total offense in his first two seasons with the Bulldogs, with 1,059 on the ground. And still another fine junior quarterback is Maryland's Boomer Esiason (6-4, 198), who started the last 10 games of 1981 after being pressed into duty because of injuries. He completed 122 passes for 1,635 yards and nine touchdowns, setting a school record for completions in a season.

An exciting quarterback who gained national recognition last year is Homer Jordan of Clemson. The 6-foot, 180-pound scrambler hit 107 of 196 aerial attempts for 1,630 yards to lead the Atlantic Coast Conference in passing. He was the offensive MVP in the Orange Bowl as the Tigers completed an unbeaten season with a win over Nebraska.

The ACC boasts yet another top quarterback in North

Carolina's Rod Elkins, a 6-1, 205 senior who has taken the Tar Heels to national championship contention the past two seasons. With Amos Lawrence around two years ago and Bryant last year, Elkins has not been called upon to pile up big stats. But he did manage an ACC-leading 81 completions for 1,002 yards as a sophomore and added 69 of 136 for 994 yards last fall. When he's been healthy and at the controls, Carolina has won 20 times in 21 tries. Only Oklahoma in 1980 was able to turn him back.

The lesser known schools around the country have some lesser known quarterbacks who are undoubtedly better known to the pro scouts. San Jose State's Steve Clarkson (6-1, 205) was 206 of 402 last year for 2,906 yards and 19 touchdowns. Matt Dunigan of Louisiana Tech threw for 1,898 yards last year and the 5-11, 189 senior could break Terry Bradshaw's school mark with 2,422 this fall. Nevada-Reno is noted for place kicker Tony Zendejas, but quarterback Marshall Sperbeck (6-3, 200) zeroed in on 122 of 232 pass attempts last year for 1,790 yards and 17 touchdowns, despite missing nearly half the season with a shoulder injury. And from that same Big Sky Conference Northern Arizona's Scott Lindquist (6-3, 205) has a 57.7 career completion percentage after 170 of 280 for 1,984 yards last fall.

Gary Schofield (6-3, 215) of Wake Forest has his name in the school and ACC record books after throwing for 2,572 yards and 18 touchdowns last year. Going even deeper into the Deep South, Jacksonville State's Ed Lett will be trying



Tony Eason, Illinois

to stay healthy for the entire season after making the Little All-America team last year despite missing the first three games. Lett threw for 1,969 yards in 1981 and has 4,661 yards in his career. Tennessee State's Brian Ransom completed 221 of 374 tosses last fall for 3,182 yards and 22 touchdowns.

Nebraska's Turner Gill was the All Big Eight quarterback as a sophomore, but is trying to come back from a severe leg injury. Gary Kubiak of Texas A&M could be the best of that well-balanced league this year, although Lance McIlhenny of SMU's defending SWC champs has a lot of supporters and Texas' Robert Brewer came on late to lead the Longhorns past Alabama in the Cotton Bowl.

Starting with Walker as one of the running backs in your dream backfield is the easy part. The difficult task is trying to choose only one or two others from an impressive list of seniors, juniors and even sophomores.

Most agree that Warner, Bryant, Rozier, Craig, Wilson, Joe McIntosh of North Carolina State and Eric Dickerson and Craig James of SMU belong up there with the best of them. But in what order?

Warner rushed for 1,044 yards and a 6.1 average in the well balanced Penn State offense last year. He's an explosive, hard-running package (6-0, 200) at tailback who should help keep the Nittany Lions in the thick of the national title chase. After being bothered by a hamstring pull

much of 1981, Warner showed just how great he is when he outdueled USC's Allen in the Fiesta Bowl, winning MVP honors.

The nation has probably never seen a better pair of alternating I-backs at one school than Rozier and Craig at Nebraska. Unless it would be Dickerson and James at SMU.

All but Rozier are seniors. He and Craig teamed for more than 2,000 yards last season and may spend time in the same backfield this season, as Craig has been tried at fullback. Rozier, in his first season at Nebraska after a year in the juco ranks, is 5-11, 205, and has moves and quickness that are drawing comparisons to the best ever in the Big Eight. Craig has muscled up to 6-2, 218 and topped the 1,000-yard mark last year. Dickerson (6-3, 215) and James (6-1, 220) combined for 2,575 yards last year as the two have split time since coming to SMU as highly touted freshmen recruits. Dickerson topped the SWC in rushing with 1,428 yards, while James added 1,147.

Oklahoma's Wilson has been a three-year starter at fullback, but ran at left half this spring. He rushed for 1,008 yards in 1981 and missed the final game of the season or he could have seriously challenged for the Big Eight rushing championship. He's a tightly wound 6-0, 196-pounder who utilizes a devastatingly quick getaway and has the strength to break tackles.

1982 College Football

QUARTERBACKS

Babe Laufenberg, Indiana, 6-2, 190, Sr.
Mike Hohensee, Minnesota, 6-1, 195, Sr.
J. Toranzo, Cal, 6-2, 200, Jr.
Ed Lett, Jacksonville St., 6-1, 190, Sr.
Lionel Wilson, Houston, 6-1, 205, Jr.
Tony Eason, Illinois, 6-4, 205, Sr.
Steve Pelluer, Washington, 6-3, 201, Jr.
Homer Jordan, Clemson, 6-0, 180, Sr.
Robert Brewer, Texas, 6-0, 186, Sr.
Boomer Esiason, Maryland, 6-4, 198, Jr.
Rod Atkins, North Carolina, 6-1, 205, Sr.
John Elway, Stanford, 6-4, 205, Sr.
Dan Marino, Pitt, 6-4, 215, Sr.
Ben Burnett, Duke, 6-1, 190, Jr.
Reggie Collier, So. Miss, 6-4, 210, Sr.
Jim Kelly, Miami (Fla.), 6-3, 210, Sr.
John Boid, Miss State, 6-4, 205, Jr.
Scott Campbell, Purdue, 6-0, 194, Jr.
Jeff Tedford, Fresno State, 6-0, 180, Sr.
Steve Clark, San Jose St., 6-1, 205, Sr.
Turner Gill, Nebraska, 6-1, 183, Jr.
Prince McJunkins, Wichita St., 6-1, 175, Sr.
Todd Blackledge, Penn State, 6-4, 222, Jr.
Stephen Starring, McNeese St., 5-11, 178, Sr.
Fred Hesse, Lamar, 6-1, 208, Sr.
Matt Dunigan, Louisiana Tech, 5-11, 189, Sr.
John Holman, NE Louisiana, 6-0, 190, Sr.
Marshall Speerbeck, Nev.-Reno, 6-3, 200, Sr.
Scott Lindquist, No. Arizona, 6-3, 205, Sr.
Lance McIlhenny, SMU, 5-11, 195, Jr.
Gary Kubiak, Texas A&M, 6-1, 195, Sr.
Brian Ransom, Tenn State, 6-1, 195, Sr.
Gary Schofield, Wake Forest, 6-3, 215, Sr.

RUNNING BACKS

Ron Jackson, Washington, 5-10, 176, Jr.
Jacques Robinson, Washington, 5-11, 202, So.
Alfred Anderson, Baylor, 6-2, 209, Jr.
Cliff Austin, Clemson, 6-0, 190, Sr.
Chuck McSwain, Clemson, 6-2, 190, Sr.
Gary Anderson, Arkansas, 6-1, 175, Sr.
John Walker, Texas, 6-1, 200, Jr.
Kelvin Bryant, No. Carolina, 6-2, 195, Sr.
Herschel Walker, Georgia, 6-2, 220, Jr.
Robert Layville, Georgia Tech, 6-0, 185, So.
Todd Spencer, USC, 5-11, 200, Jr.
Craig James, SMU, 6-1, 220, Sr.

Eric Dickerson, SMU, 6-3, 215, Sr.
Kerwin Bell, Kansas, 5-9, 185, So.
Lorenzo Bouyer, Maine, 6-0, 190, Sr.
Stan Wilson, Oklahoma, 6-0, 200, Sr.
Roger Craig, Nebraska, 6-2, 215, Sr.
Mike Rozier, Nebraska, 5-11, 205, Jr.
Phil Carter, Notre Dame, 5-10, 200, Sr.
Vincent White, Stanford, 5-8, 170, Sr.
Michael Haddix, Miss State, 6-3, 215, Sr.
Greg Bell, Notre Dame, 6-0, 205, Jr.
Tim Spencer, Ohio State, 6-1, 212, Sr.
Greg Allen, Florida St., 5-11, 200, So.
Lee Rouson, Colorado, 6-1, 205, So.
Tim Harris, Wash St., 5-9, 195, Sr.
Joe McIntosh, No. Carolina St., 5-11, 200, So.
Curt Warner, Penn State, 6-0, 200, Sr.
Jeff Fagan, Alabama, 6-1, 200, Sr.
Ricky Moore, Alabama, 6-0, 235, So.
Greg Drew, Boston U., 5-11, 190, Jr.
Garry Pearson, Mass., 5-11, 185, Sr.
Buford Jordan, McNeese St., 6-2, 210, Jr.
Randy Johnson, Texas-Arling, 5-11, 200, Jr.
Rusty Summers, No. Arizona, 5-11, 207, Sr.
Rodney Webster, Boise St., 5-11, 180, Jr.
Stanford Jennings, Furman, 6-1, 185, Jr.
James Jones, Florida, 6-3, 236, Sr.
Cyrus Lawrence, Va. Tech, 5-9, 200, Sr.
Dennis Mahan, Hampton Inst., 6-1, 189, Sr.
Kevin Nelson, UCLA, 5-10, 191, Jr.
Elton Veals, Cal, 6-2, 225, Jr.
Floyd Jones, Austin Peay, 5-10, 180, Jr.
Quentin Walker, Virginia, 6-1, 200, Sr.
Amoro Ware, Drake, 6-0, 207, Sr.
Bryan Thomas, Pitt, 5-10, 195, Sr.

WIDE RECEIVERS

Mike Martin, Illinois, 6-2, 185, Sr.
Oliver Williams, Illinois, 6-3, 195, Sr.
Paul Skanski, Washington, 6-11, 190, Sr.
Gerald McNeil, Baylor, 5-7, 137, Jr.
Andy Gible, Missouri, 6-4, 230, Sr.
Charles Faulkner, Florida, 6-5, 250, Sr.
Malcom Scott, LSU, 6-4, 225, Sr.
Tony Hunter, Notre Dame, 6-5, 225, Sr.
Jerry Price, Miss St., 6-5, 235, Sr.
Mark Raugh, West Va., 6-3, 205, Sr.
Tony Camp, Pacific, 6-5, 240, Jr.
Jamie Williams, Nebraska, 6-4, 227, Sr.

John Chesley, Okla. St., 6-5, 223, Jr.
Dave Hestera, Colorado, 6-4, 225, Jr.
Gordon Hudson, BYU, 6-4, 224, Jr.
Phil Denfield, Wake Forest, 6-5, 220, Sr.
Frank Magwood, Clemson, 6-0, 188, Sr.
Willie Gault, Tennessee, 6-2, 175, Sr.
Steve Martinez, Wyoming, 5-11, 172, Sr.
James Caver, Missouri, 5-11, 170, Sr.
Jeff Simmons, USC, 6-3, 195, Sr.
Anthony Carter, Michigan, 5-11, 165, Sr.
Trumaine Johnson, Grambling, 6-3, 190, Sr.
Dwight Collins, Pitt, 6-1, 205, Jr.
Julius Dawkins, Pitt, 6-3, 187, Sr.
Lytone Young, Florida, 6-6, 195, Sr.
Joe Howard, Notre Dame, 5-9, 165, So.
Glen Young, Miss State, 6-3, 205, Sr.
Gary Williams, Ohio State, 6-2, 210, Sr.
Henry Ellard, Fresno St., 5-11, 170, Sr.
Tim Kearse, San Jose St., 5-11, 188, Sr.
Todd Brown, Nebraska, 6-0, 173, Sr.
Irving Fryar, Nebraska, 6-0, 190, Jr.
Wayne Capers, Kansas, 6-3, 200, Sr.
Mariet Ford, Cal, 5-9, 160, Sr.
Stanley Washington, TCU, 5-11, 175, Sr.
Kenny Jackson, Penn State, 6-0, 174, Jr.
Duane Gunn, Indiana, 6-0, 180, Jr.
Darius Durham, San Diego St., 6-2, 190, Sr.
Jesse Bendross, Alabama, 6-1, 185, Jr.
Joey Jones, Alabama, 5-9, 165, Jr.
Peter O'Donnell, New Hampshire, 6-0, 180, Jr.
Herbert Harris, Lamar, 6-1, 191, Sr.
Alfred Kinney, NE Louisiana, 5-9, 168, Sr.
Jeff Champine, Colo. St., 6-2, 186, Jr.
Mike Jones, Tenn St., 6-1, 183, Jr.
Cornac Carney, UCLA, 6-1, 195, Sr.
Tim Straka, Wisconsin, 6-3, 213, Jr.
Robert Griffin, Tulane, 6-2, 190, Jr.
Rocky Belk, Miami-Fla., 6-3, 187, Sr.
Andy Bark, Cal, 6-1, 180, Jr.

TIGHT ENDS

Jeff Speck, UNLV, 6-4, 220, Sr.
Ron Vogel, Oregon St., 6-5, 216, Sr.
John Tice, Maryland, 6-5, 240, Sr.
Norris Brown, Georgia, 6-3, 215, Sr.
Ron Wezel, Ariz. St., 6-7, 235, Sr.
James Williams, Wyoming, 6-2, 220, Sr.
Matty Chalk, Syracuse, 6-4, 222, Jr.

OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

Jeff Kiewel, Arizona, 6-4, 260, Sr.
Maceo Fifer, Houston, 6-6, 265, Sr.
Adam Linger, Illinois, 6-5, 230, Sr.
Don Dow, Washington, 6-6, 280, Sr.
Eric Moran, Washington, 6-6, 288, Sr.
Mark Kirchner, Baylor, 6-2, 258, Sr.
Alfred Mohammed, Arkansas, 6-3, 270, Sr.
Steve Korje, Arkansas, 6-2, 263, Sr.
Doug Dawson, Texas, 6-3, 260, Jr.
David Pacella, Maryland, 6-3, 277, Sr.
David Drechsler, No. Carolina, 6-4, 250, Sr.
Ron Spruill, No. Carolina, 6-2, 250, Sr.
Brian Blados, No. Carolina, 6-6, 290, Jr.
Wayne Radloff, Georgia, 6-5, 260, Sr.
Jimmy Harper, Georgia, 6-5, 275, Jr.
David Lutz, Georgia Tech, 6-7, 274, Sr.
Joe DiGiorgio, Wyoming, 6-1, 251, Sr.
Gerry Feehery, Syracuse, 6-1, 252, Sr.
Conrad Goode, Missouri, 6-7, 255, Jr.
Brad Matthews, USC, 6-5, 260, Sr.
Don Mosebar, USC, 6-7, 275, Sr.
Tony Slaton, USC, 6-4, 250, Jr.
Dave Sullivan, Virginia, 6-8, 280, Sr.
Gerald Smith, Kentucky, 6-5, 242, Sr.
Wayne Harris, Miss State, 6-3, 280, Sr.
Joe Lukens, Ohio State, 6-2, 262, Sr.
Steve Mott, Alabama, 6-3, 247, Sr.
Dave Kimington, Nebraska, 6-3, 280, Sr.
Mike Shiner, Notre Dame, 6-8, 270, Sr.
Joe Levelis, Iowa, 6-5, 280, Jr.
Bill Liechtenstein, Tulane, 6-4, 270, Jr.
Johnny Robertson, E. Carolina, 6-6, 279, Jr.
Tom Thayer, Notre Dame, 6-5, 265, Sr.
Kent Hull, Miss State, 6-5, 250, Jr.
Tom Jelsky, Purdue, 6-6, 285, Sr.
Tom McCormick, Florida St., 6-2, 232, Jr.
Joe Crum, Utah State, 6-4, 250, Sr.
Randy Thoms, Nebraska, 6-3, 256, Sr.
Mike Mandelko, Nebraska, 6-1, 255, Sr.
K.C. Brown, Kansas, 6-6, 260, Jr.
Reggie Smith, Kansas, 6-4, 260, Jr.
Karl Nelson, Iowa State, 6-6, 271, Sr.
Bill Fraile, Pitt, 6-5, 270, So.
Jimbo Covert, Pitt, 6-5, 275, Sr.
Harvey Salem, Cal, 6-7, 270, Sr.
Amos Donaldson, Kansas St., 6-2, 260, Sr.

The first running back taken in the NFL draft next year, however, might be Bryant, the 6-2, 195 flyer from North Carolina. He was on his way to a super season last year when a knee injury slowed him down. Bryant scored 15 touchdowns in his **FIRST THREE GAMES!** Then he was injured against Georgia Tech, underwent surgery, and did not return until late in the season. He rushed for 247 yards against Duke to hit 1,015 on the season — the second straight year he topped 1,000 yards, even though sharing time with Lawrence the year before. Bryant added 148 yards in the Gator Bowl against Arkansas. He had 18 touchdowns while playing in only 22 of the Tar Heels' 44 quarters of the regular season. Bryant missed most of his freshman season with a shoulder separation.

Some of the most exciting running backs returning this year are only sophomores. McIntosh, Lee Rouson at Colorado, Greg Allen of Florida State, Kerwin Bell of Kansas (a hardship ruling after his injury early last season), Jacques Robinson of Washington and Ricky Moore of Alabama are among the more successful rookies of a year ago.

McIntosh (5-11, 200) was the only frosh last year to make the Top 50 list nationally in rushing, gaining 1,190 with a 5.4 average per carry. Allen put his name in the record books with a 322-yard, 32-carry effort against Western Carolina. He started the final five games for Florida State and led the team in rushing with 888 yards and a 6.4 average

per tote. He's also 5-11, 200. Allen had 95 yards in kick returns against Western Carolina for a national record 417 in all-purpose yards.

Robert Lavette of Georgia Tech made his freshman waves when he rushed for 78.7 yards a game and added 45 pass receptions. He can fly at 6-foot, 185.

Rouson, a speedy 205-pounder, was forced into the Colorado lineup after injuries thinned the Buffalo ranks. He responded by piling up a team-high 656 yards rushing. That was good for third in the all-time Big Eight records for a freshman. Bell holds the top spot on the frosh charts as the former California All-America prep star broke in at Kansas with 1,114 yards in only 10 games two years ago. He was on his way to another fine season last fall when he went down in the third game with a knee injury and did not return. He was given a hardship ruling, thus the Big Eight has three more years of worries about how to stop this 5-9, 185 jitterbug.

Rickey Moore (6-1, 230) proved to be a devastating blocker and runner in the middle for Alabama last fall, and he should be even better this year as the Tide is more experienced on the line and at quarterback. Moore's stats may suffer due to the philosophy at 'Bama of using so many different backs and keeping them all fresh.

Anyone who watched Washington's domination of Iowa in the Rose Bowl last Jan. 1 knows the Huskies have a top

Star Watcher's Guide

Sid Abramowitz, Tulsa T, 6-5, 270, Sr.
Joe Beazley, Alabama T, 6-5, 250, Sr.
Brett Martin, McNeese St G, 6-3, 238, Sr.
Lonnie Collins, McNeese St T, 6-2, 244, Sr.
Quinn Sowell, NE Louisiana T, 6-6, 265, Jr.
Wally Browne, Virginia Tech T, 6-4, 275, Sr.
Tom Piette, Michigan C, 6-4, 248, Sr.
Jim Mills, Hawaii T, 6-8, 270, Sr.
Bill Roberts, Ohio State T, 6-5, 262, Jr.
Bob Winkler, Wisconsin T, 6-3, 290, Sr.
Dave Schreck, Air Force G, 6-4, 240, Sr.
Jon Schulties, Princeton G, 6-3, 265, Sr.
Jack Belcher, Boston Col C, 6-4, 255, Sr.
Bart Oates, BYU C, 6-4, 242, Sr.

DEFENSIVE ENDS

Charles Benson, Baylor, 6-3, 255, Sr.
Andy Headen, Clemson, 6-5, 225, Sr.
Billy Ray Smith, Arkansas, 6-3, 228, Sr.
Kiki DeAyala, Texas, 6-1, 228, Sr.
Mike Cofer, Tennessee, 6-5, 226, Sr.
Freddie Gilbert, Georgia, 6-4, 225, Jr.
Jim Jeffcoat, Ariz State, 6-6, 251, Sr.
Taft Sales, Missouri, 6-2, 209, Sr.
Jack Del Rio, USC, 6-4, 230, So.
Billy Jackson, Miss State, 6-1, 220, Jr.
Tony Felici, Nebraska, 6-1, 205, Sr.
Rodney Harding, Okla State, 6-2, 219, So.
Mike Pitts, Alabama, 6-5, 250, Sr.
Jimmie Carter, New Mexico, 6-2, 203, Sr.
Russ Washington, SMU, 6-0, 220, Sr.
Wilbur Marshall, Florida, 6-1, 229, Jr.
Dwayne Jackson, S Carolina St, 6-5, 250, Sr.
George Tillman, So Miss, 6-3, 232, Jr.
Walker Lee Ashley, Penn St, 6-0, 228, Sr.
Greg Burkus, Yale, 5-11, 210, Sr.
Ron Thomas, No Arizona, 6-4, 228, Sr.

DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

Mark Burkus, Illinois, 6-4, 235, Jr.
Scott Garrett, Washington, 6-2½, 253, Jr.
Dan Benish, Clemson, 6-6, 242, Sr.
William Perry, Clemson, 6-3, 300, So.
Richard Richardson, Arkansas, 5-11, 243, Sr.
Chris Wampler, Tennessee, 6-2, 243, Sr.
Reggie White, Tennessee, 6-5, 256, Jr.
Gurnest Brown, Maryland, 6-4, 278, Sr.
Mark Duda, Maryland, 6-3, 263, Sr.

William Fuller, No Carolina, 6-3, 250, Jr.
Jimmy Payne, Georgia, 6-4, 245, Sr.
George Achica, USC, 6-5, 255, Sr.
Randy Jostes, Missouri, 6-5, 255, Sr.
Irv Eatman, UCLA, 6-7, 270, Sr.
Michael Carter, SMU, 6-2, 275, Sr.
Rick Bryan, Oklahoma, 6-4, 260, Jr.
Tim Marshall, Notre Dame, 6-4, 250, Jr.
John Blake, Oklahoma, 5-11, 255, Sr.
Matt Hernandez, Purdue, 6-6, 250, Sr.
Reggie Singletary, Kansas St, 6-2, 251, Jr.
Jerome Foster, Ohio State, 6-3, 258, Sr.
Todd Campbell, West Va, 6-2, 250, Sr.
Kevin Jones, Fresno St, 6-3, 230, Sr.
Steve McEnroe, San Jose St, 6-2, 225, Sr.
Shawn Miller, Utah State, 6-4, 245, Sr.
Toby Williams, Nebraska, 6-4, 255, Sr.
Gary Lewis, Okla State, 6-5, 250, Sr.
Shamus McDonough, Iowa St, 6-4, 276, Sr.
Jeff Merrill, Nebraska, 6-4, 255, Sr.
Donnie Humphrey, Auburn, 6-6, 276, Sr.
Mark Bortz, Iowa, 6-6, 265, Sr.
Tim Krumrie, Wisconsin, 6-3, 255, Sr.
Jackie Cline, Alabama, 6-5, 274, Sr.
Michael Bourgeois, Boise St, 6-4, 250, Jr.
Bobb Hamm, Nevada-Reno, 6-4, 260, Sr.
Falaniko Noga, Hawaii, 6-1, 220, Jr.
Charlie Pattison, Wyoming, 6-6, 270, Sr.
Jim Ettari, The Citadel, 6-3, 250, Sr.
Effrey Brooks, Kentucky, 6-1, 230, Sr.
Thomas Strauthers, Jackson St, 6-5, 265, Sr.
Tony Chickillo, Miami-Fla., 6-3, 250, Sr.
R.C. Eason, Florida A&M, 6-5, 255, Sr.
Andrew Provence, So Carolina, 6-3, 255, Sr.
Bill Pickel, Rutgers, 6-6, 260, Sr.
Ray Childress, Texas A&M, 6-6, 260, So.
Clenzie Pierson, Rice, 6-7, 280, Sr.

LINEBACKERS

Mark Stewart, Washington, 6-3, 230, Sr.
Ken Driscoll, Washington, 5-11, 213, Sr.
Geff Gandy, Baylor, 6-2, 228, Sr.
Chris DeCristo, UNLV, 6-0, 200, So.
Jeff Leidings, Texas, 6-4, 240, Jr.
Mike Muller, Maryland, 6-0½, 223, Sr.
Tommy Thurson, Georgia, 6-2, 215, Jr.
Duane Wood, Georgia Tech, 5-11, 209, Sr.
Vernon Maxwell, Ariz State, 6-2, 225, Jr.

Jamie Kimmel, Syracuse, 6-3, 240, So.
Jackie Shipp, Oklahoma, 6-3, 230, Jr.
Thomas Benson, Oklahoma, 6-2, 238, Jr.
Mark Zavagnin, Notre Dame, 6-2, 225, Sr.
Brock Spack, Purdue, 6-1, 221, Jr.
Marcus Marek, Ohio State, 6-2, 222, Sr.
Robert Thompson, Michigan, 6-3, 219, Sr.
Tommy Young, Florida St, 6-0, 212, Sr.
Dennis Fowlkes, West Va, 6-2, 225, Sr.
Darryl Talley, West Va, 6-4, 210, Sr.
Steve Damkroger, Nebraska, 6-1, 235, Sr.
Mike Green, Oklahoma St, 6-2, 218, Sr.
Chris Washington, Iowa St, 6-3, 212, Jr.
Rickey Hunley, Arizona, 6-1, 229, Jr.
Rich Dixon, Cal, 6-3, 235, Sr.
Glen Cobb, Ohio State, 6-3, 210, Sr.
Robbie Jones, Alabama, 6-3, 230, Sr.
Gary Moten, SMU, 6-1, 206, Sr.
Melvin Rucker, VMI, 6-2, 224, Sr.
Weedy Harris, Houston, 6-2, 220, Sr.
Carl Banks, Michigan St, 6-6, 230, Jr.
Andy Ponceigo, Navy, 6-1, 225, Jr.
Gary Spann, TCU, 6-2, 215, So.
Danny Triplett, Clemson, 6-4, 224, Sr.
Jay Brophy, Miami-Fla., 6-3, 230, Jr.

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Ray Horton, Washington, 5-11, 188, Sr.
Vic Vines, Baylor, 6-0, 190, Sr.
Terry Kinard, Clemson, 6-1, 190, Sr.
Kynyon Jenkins, UNLV, 5-10, 173, Jr.
Bill Bates, Tennessee, 6-1, 193, Sr.
Greg Poole, No Carolina, 6-1, 200, Sr.
Walter Black, No Carolina, 5-10, 171, Jr.
Ronnie Harris, Georgia, 5-11, 180, Sr.
Ted Thurson, Georgia Tech, 5-10, 184, Sr.
Mike Richardson, Ariz St, 6-0, 190, Sr.
Joey Browner, USC, 6-3, 205, Sr.
Mike Potter, Missouri, 5-10, 183, Sr.
Demetrius Johnson, Missouri, 6-1, 185, Sr.
Stacey Toran, Notre Dame, 6-4, 195, Jr.
Dave Duerson, Notre Dame, 6-3, 200, Sr.
Vaughn Williams, Stanford, 6-3, 190, Jr.
Keith Bostic, Michigan, 6-1, 207, Sr.
Gill Byrd, San Jose St, 5-11, 192, Sr.
Clyde Riggins, Colorado, 5-10, 190, Jr.
Steve Brown, Oregon, 6-0, 180, Sr.
Chris Rockins, Okla St, 6-0, 190, Jr.

Tommy Wilcox, Alabama, 5-11, 194, Sr.
Eric Williams, No Carolina St, 6-1, 190, Sr.
Dennis Greenwood, Wisconsin, 6-3, 208, Sr.
Lionel Washington, Tulane, 6-0, 180, Sr.
Mark Robinson, Penn St, 5-11, 199, Jr.
Jeremiah Castille, Alabama, 5-11, 177, Sr.
Grady Fuller, Mass, 6-2, 185, Jr.
Dwayne Lopes, Mass, 6-0, 180, Sr.
Jim Anderson, Montana St, 6-0, 177, Sr.
Matt Courtney, Idaho St, 5-11½, 172, Jr.
Tony Reed, Utah, 5-10, 167, Sr.
Russell Carter, SMU, 6-3, 181, Jr.
Wes Hopkins, SMU, 6-1, 190, Sr.
Donnie Cook, E Tenn St, 6-0, 201, Sr.
Andy Molls, Kentucky, 5-11, 186, Sr.
Darrell Songy, Oklahoma, 6-0, 196, Sr.
Matt Vanden Boom, Wisconsin, 6-3, 198, Sr.
Martin Bayless, Bowling Green, 6-2, 185, Jr.
Butch LaCroix, Houston, 5-11, 183, Sr.
Mike Williams, Army, 5-11, 205, Sr.
Bill Obrensky, Duke, 6-0, 185, Sr.
Albert Lewis, Grambling, 5-11, 185, Sr.
Tom Holmoe, BYU, 6-3, 187, Sr.
Tom Flynn, Pitt, 6-0, 193, Jr.

KICKERS

Chuck Nelson, Washington K, 5-11, 173, Sr.
Dale Hatcher, Clemson K, 6-2, 195, So.
Donald Igwebuikwe, Clemson K, 5-8, 172, So.
Jimmy Colquitt, Tennessee P, 6-4, 200, So.
Mike Black, Ariz St P, 6-3, 190, Sr.
Luis Zendejas, Ariz St K, 5-9, 180, So.
Bucky Scribner, Kansas P, 6-0, 205, Sr.
Peter Kim, Alabama K, 5-8, 165, Sr.
Dana Moore, Miss St K-P, 5-11, 185, Sr.
Don Bracken, Michigan P, 6-0, 185, Jr.
Ali Haji-Sheikh, Mich K, 6-0, 172, Sr.
Mike Rendina, Florida St K, 5-10, 185, So.
Scott Darrow, Fresno St K, 5-9, 165, Sr.
Larry Roach, Okla St K, 6-1, 175, So.
Kevin Butler, Georgia K, 6-1, 190, So.
James Gargus, TCU P, 6-4, 220, So.
Malcolm Simmons, Alabama P, 6-4, 200, Jr.
Ralph Giacomarro, Penn St P, 6-2, 195, Jr.
Jim Arnold, Vandy P, 6-3, 200, Sr.
Domingos Carlos, Conn K, 5-8, 160, Sr.
Scott McDonald, Arkansas St K, 6-1, 165, Jr.
Tony Zendejas, Nev-Reno K, 5-7, 160, Jr.

young back in Jacque Robinson. The 5-11, 202-pounder averaged 7.1 yards that afternoon as he totalled 142 yards and two touchdowns against one of the nation's top defenses.

Although Dickerson and James are the big names in the Southwest Conference, the league has its share of other all-star caliber backs. Waiting to break loose are such promising performers as Baylor's Alfred Anderson (6-2, 209 junior), Texas' John Walker (6-1, 200 junior) and Arkansas' Gary Anderson (6-1, 175 senior).

The biggest of the spotlighted backs is Florida's James Jones, a 6-3, 236 senior who runs with speed and punishing strength. He was All-SEC last year at fullback and rushed for 617 yards in an offense built around the pass. On the other side of the coin is Austin Peay's Floyd Jones, who averaged over 100 yards a game last year and 8.2 yards a carry. Amoro Ware of Drake (6-0, 207) has been the leading rusher in the Missouri Valley two years in a row now and most feel he'll do it again as a senior. One of the nation's top backs you'll probably never see on the tube is Dennis Mahan of Hampton Institute. The 6-1, 189 senior was a Sheridan Black College All-America last year and has averaged 6.2 yards a try in his career.

Virginia fans aren't used to playing for national championships, but they get excited when Quentin Walker (6-1, 200) carries the mail. He averaged 7.5 yards a crack last year before being sidelined early by an injury. Not far up the road is Cyrus Lawrence of Virginia Tech, who used his 5-9, 200 body to rush for 1,405 yards in an amazing 325 carries. He's a remarkably strong runner. A new name on the scene for major college fans this fall could be Elton Veals. Three years ago he was one of the most eligible recruits in the country after a brilliant prep career in Louisiana. Now he's ready to show what he can do at California after the 6-2, 225 flyer (4.4) led the nation's junior colleges in rushing the last two years.

Now that you've selected your quarterback and a couple of backs to give the ball to when you're not throwing, you'll want to add a receiver or two or three. And it's been a while since the picking was any better for wide receivers than it is this year.

Ironically, the one player almost everyone starts with on their All-American teams is one of the smallest — Michigan's 5-11, 165 senior Anthony Carter. He's already been a first-team All-American twice, and received considerable recognition last year in the Heisman balloting.

"Having witnessed throughout the years, many great athletes, it is difficult to recall anyone with the ability to alter the course of a football game as quickly as Anthony

Carter," said Dallas Cowboys' exec Gil Brandt. Carter alters the course of games by using his electrifying quickness and natural running instincts to turn little plays into big ones. He has 29 career touchdown catches, 2,232 career reception yards and 118 career receptions. He's caught at least one pass in his last 20 games. Of the 255 times he has touched the football, he's gained at least 20 yards 85 times.

The Big 10, once a runner's paradise, is now full of record-setting quarterbacks and receivers. Martin and Williams at Illinois are two of the best wide-outs. Gary Williams of Ohio State is another in a long line of great Buckeye athletes, as the 6-2, 210 senior split end has 114 career receptions, best ever at OSU. He runs a 4.58 in the 40 and has great hands. A high school quarterback, Williams has caught at least one pass in each of the 36 games he's played in at Ohio State. He caught 50 for 941 yards in 1981 and has 14 career touchdown catches.

The new face in the crowd of exciting wide receivers in the

Big 10 is Indiana's Duane Gunn, a 6-0, 180 junior who hauled in 31 passes last year and averaged an eye-popping 21.2 per grab. He also returned 11 kickoffs for a 27.3 average. Among his scoring plays last year were catches of 71, 58 and 55 yards, a run of 48 and a kickoff return of 97. Coach Lee Corso calls him, and rightly so, "one of the most exciting football players in America."

There's plenty of excitement back East when Pitt and Penn State put the ball in the air, too. Dwight Collins (6-1, 205) of the Panthers was one of the most prolific receivers in the country as a freshman, but was injured much of last year. Still, he caught 20 passes, five of them for touchdowns. Taking up the slack was split end Julius Dawkins (6-2, 190), who made first-team All-

American while catching 46 passes, 16 for TDs. He was 12th in the nation in scoring and had 767 yards in receptions.

Penn State flanker Kenny Jackson (5-11, 175) is the dynamite in the Nittany Lions' attack. He caught 22 for 495 yards and six touchdowns last fall.

Jumping over to the West Coast, you won't find many better than Washington flanker Paul Skansi (5-11½, 190). He's a three-year starter who already ranks No. 2 in career receptions (88 for 1,092) for the Huskies. He caught 33 for 419 yards as a sophomore and 31 for 378 as a freshman. He's always there with the big play when needed.

Southern Cal hopes to beef up its aerial game this season behind sophomore quarterback Sean Salisbury, who'll spend a lot of his time throwing to Jeff Simmons (6-3, 195). Fresno State's Henry Ellard (5-11, 170) caught 39 for 808 yards last year, and Tim Kearse of San Jose State had an amazing 71 receptions for 946 yards. With quarterback



Miami's Jim Kelly

Steve Clarkson (3,373 yards and 28 touchdowns) back to do the throwing, Kearsse should have a great season again. So should juco transfer Eric Richardson, who caught 63 last year for 1,236 yards.

Cal has some of the nation's most prolific pass catchers, led by little Mariet Ford (5-9, 160). He had 45 catches for 600 yards to outshine brother Orrin. And Orrin could lose his job this year to Andy Bark (6-1, 180 junior), who sat out last year after transferring from the Air Force Academy. Bark caught 47 passes for the AF in 1980. Darius Durham of San Diego State is another of the nation's top receivers as he was No. 3 in the nation last year with 65 catches for 988 yards and seven scores. But Durham will be depending upon freshman quarterback (and former prep sensation) Jim Plum to get the ball to him. Plum averaged 2,300 yards-plus in the airways during his high school career and threw for 70 touchdowns in three years.

While the Big Eight and SWC do not make a habit of throwing the football, there have been some top receivers come out of those conferences recently. The best this year may be TCU's Stanley Washington, a scintillating 5-11, 175 senior who latched onto 49 passes for 854 yards in only eight games last fall. Wayne Capers of Kansas, James Caver of Missouri and Nebraska's Todd Brown and Irving Fryar are the best bets to make big noise in the Big Eight.

Another great little man at wide receiver is Northeast Louisiana's Alfred Kinney (5-9, 168), who caught 55 for 782 yards and nine touchdowns a year ago. Alabama has a pair of dandies in Jesse Bendross and Joey Jones, while Tennessee's Willie Gault (6-2, 175) figures to go high in the 1983 NFL draft. Florida's lanky Tyrone Young (6-6, 195) has a world of potential, but the receiver who may go first from the South (and one of the first overall) is Grambling's Trumaine Johnson. The 6-3, 190 senior caught 43 passes last year and has 4.3 quickness to go with his great size and hands.

Mention Notre Dame football and you immediately have an image of big, big, big. But the most celebrated of the Irish last year was 5-9, 165 split end Joe Howard. As a freshman he started the final five games and had 17 catches for a 27.2 average. One of his three TD catches was a record 96-yarder against Georgia Tech. He's already being compared to Carter at Michigan.

Some not-so-well-knowns to keep an eye on include Miami of Florida's Rocky Belk (6-3, 187), Tulane's Robert Griffin (6-2, 190) and Tennessee State's Mike Jones (6-1, 183). Belk averaged a whopping 23.8 on 15 catches last year before missing the middle of the season after

an appendectomy. Griffin caught 45 passes for 901 yards and 10 touchdowns in 1980, but missed last year with an injury. Jones snagged 49 of Brian Ransom's passes a year ago.

One of the most interesting races for All-American honors this year will be at tight end, where there is no unanimous choice. Nebraska's Jamie Williams (6-4, 227) had a great debut year in 1980, but West Virginia's Mark Raugh (6-3, 205) is a pass catcher deluxe and was second-team All-America last year. Others who could break through include Norris Brown of Georgia (although the Bulldogs will be breaking in a new quarterback), Mark Keel of Arizona (6-3, 225) and Gordon Hudson of BYU's high octane attack. Hudson (6-4, 224) caught an astounding 67 passes for 960 yards and 10 touchdowns last fall, but won't have Jim McMahon around this year doing the throwing.

Notre Dame's Tony Hunter (6-5, 225) is a "forgotten man" at tight end after starring early in his career at split end and then being moved around from one position to another. But he still needs a quarterback who can get him the ball. Charles Faulkner of Florida (6-5, 250) figured to be one of the best in the land last year, but was injured most of the time. This could be his year. And don't count out David Lewis (6-4, 235 junior) of Cal. He has the potential to be as good as any.

Any talk of offensive linemen has to begin with Nebraska's Outland winner Rimington, a 6-3, 280 hunk who was so quick off the ball last year that he dominated the Big Eight and anyone else who got in his way. Coaches in the Big Eight picked him as the one player they'd like to have around whom to build a team, and he won Offensive Player of the Year honors.

But you can flank the big Husker with plenty of talent at guards and tackles, too. Southern Cal has one of each who could wind up on a lot of A-A teams in guard Bruce Matthews (6-5, 260) and tackle Don Mosebar (6-7, 275). The Trojans also have a center who could be the second best in the country in junior Tony Slaton (6-4, 250). Houston's Maceo Fifer (6-6, 265) is thought by many to be the best at

his position (tackle), while others lean toward Jimmy Harper (6-5, 275 junior) of Georgia. Mike Shiner (6-8, 270) of Notre Dame is certain to rate a high priority in the draft. So is Iowa tackle Joe Levelis (6-5, 280). Irish guard Tom Thayer (6-5, 265) is another good one.

The best pass blocker in the country might be Cal's Harvey Salem (6-7, 270), but Pitt's Covert is regarded a good bet to push Rimington for that Outland Trophy this year. Texas junior Doug Dawson (6-3,



Pitt's Julius Dawkins

260) has Longhorns fans happy he's around as they do some rebuilding in the line. And North Carolina should pose a problem for Pitt in that key opener as David Drechsler (6-4, 250), Ron Spruill (6-2, 250) and Brian Blados (6-6, 290) are all big and experienced along the front wall.

The leading Outland candidate on defense this year seems to be Arkansas senior end Billy Ray Smith (6-3½, 228). He did it all last year for the Hogs after a great sophomore campaign, and he figures to go down in Razorback annals as one of the greatest of all time. Smith makes the big play, time after time after time.

He and Baylor's Charles Benson (6-3, 255) could be the best pair of ends in the land. But you'll get arguments from folks who have seen Tennessee's Mike Cofer (6-5, 226), Arizona State's Jim Jeffcoat (6-6, 251), Mississippi State's Billy Jackson (6-1, 220) and Alabama's Mike Pitts (6-5, 250), a second-team All-American pick a year ago. Wilbur Marshall of Florida (6-1, 229) and Ron Thomas of Northern Arizona (6-4, 228) are two other great ones.

Holding down the front of the 1982 defensive lines should be the likes of Reggie White of Tennessee (6-5, 256), Jimmy Payne (6-4, 245) of Georgia, George Achica (6-5, 255) of USC, Irv Eatman (6-7, 270) of UCLA, Rick Bryan (6-4, 260) of Oklahoma, Reggie Singletary (6-2, 251) of Kansas State, Gary Lewis (6-5, 250) of Oklahoma State and the great Tim Krumrie (6-3, 255) of Wisconsin. Krumrie was an All-American first-teamer last year at nose guard. The pros will likely take a long look at Jim Ettari of the Citadel as the 6-3, 250 senior bench presses 500 pounds.

There is room for a newcomer or two to break in at linebacker as about the only popular choices there are Mark Stewart (6-3, 230) of Washington and Vernon Maxwell (6-2, 225) of Arizona State. Texas junior Jeff Leiding (6-4, 240) is being boomed as a great one, while Rickey Hunley (6-1, 229) of Arizona is also hailed as a star. All but Stewart are juniors. The Big 10 area has some top prospects in Purdue's Brock Spack (6-1, 221 jr.), Ohio State's Marcus Marek (6-2, 222 sr.) and Glen Cobb (6-3, 210 sr.) and massive junior Carl Banks (6-6, 230) of Michigan State.

Take last year's All-American teams and you have a ready-made secondary. Terry Kinard of Clemson is one of the top tacklers and ball hawkers around and he made several first teams last year. Mike Richardson of Arizona State is another first-teamer of a year ago, as is Alabama's Tommy Wilcox. All are seniors, as is Ray Horton of Washington, who made some A-A squads last season. Dave Duerson (6-3, 200) of Notre Dame was a third-team pick, while Wisconsin's Matt Vanden Boom (6-3, 198) was named to the first team of a couple post-season star squads.

But you don't have to stop there. Grambling's Albert Lewis is liked by the pros, as is Vaughn Williams of Stanford (6-3, 190), who still has two years to play in college. Mike Potter of Missouri, Walter Black of North Carolina and Dennis Greenwood of Wisconsin are others who have gotten more than their share of attention.

Kickers? They're abundant this fall, too. Iowa punter Reggie Roby averaged an unheard of 49.9 yards last year to lead the nation. And others like Alabama's Malcolm Simmons, Clemson's Dale Hatcher, Arizona State's Mike Black and Kansas' Bucky Scribner have pro potential. Chuck Nelson of Washington is one of the top placement specialists, but Arizona State's Louis Zendejas, Nevada-Reno's Tony Zendejas, Alabama's Peter Kim and Oklahoma State's Larry Roach are recognized as outstanding.

For the record, the top returning rusher in the nation this fall will, of course, be Walker. He was second in the country

last year to Allen. Dickerson was sixth in the land in 1981, while Lawrence and Ware held down the next two spots. Marino was second to McMahon in passing efficiency (155.0 to 144.5), with Eason fourth at 140.0 and Campbell sixth at 138.3. Doug Flutie, a freshman at Boston College last year, was the next underclassmen on the list at ninth with a 135.8 rating, followed by Kelly of Miami.

Walker leads the returning scorers (Bryant played in too few quarters to be considered) with 10.9 points a game, just half a point ahead of Dickerson. Buford Jordan, a junior at McNeese State, was fourth with 10.0 a game. Sophomore kickers Butler of Georgia and Zendejas of ASU were the only other underclassmen in the Top 10 of scoring last fall.

Durham is the leading returner among the receivers with 5.9 a game. The next six are also returning.

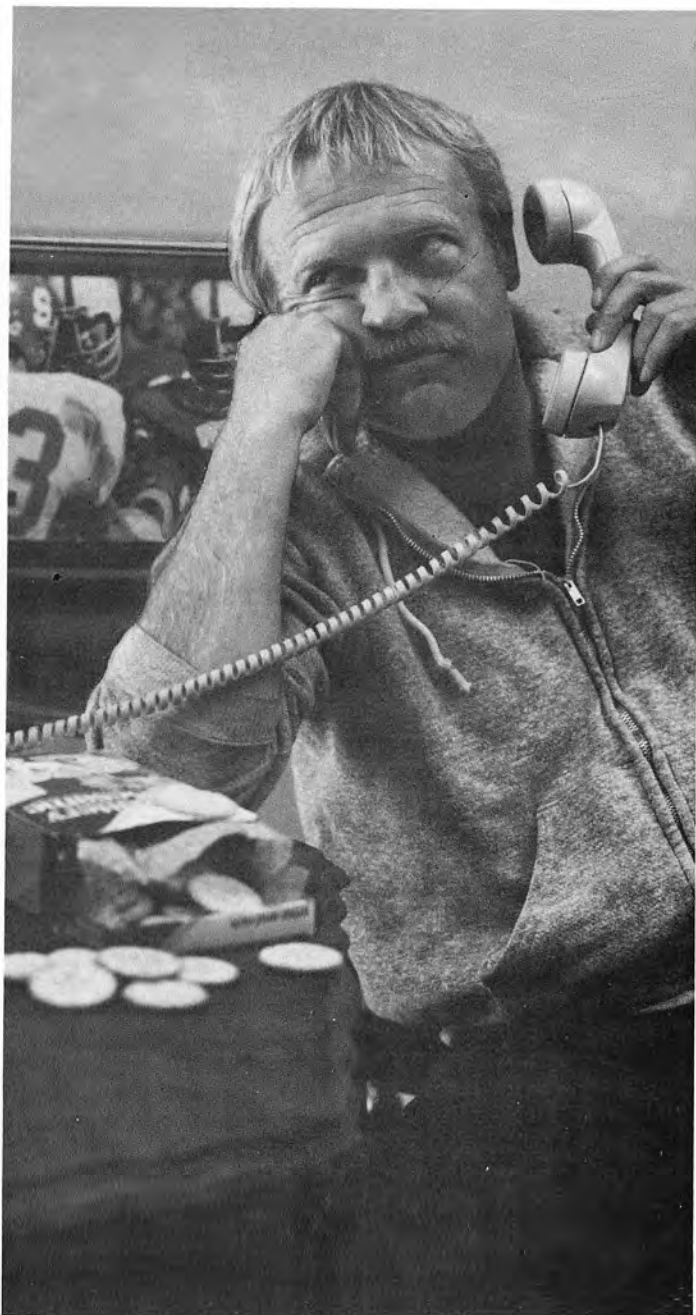
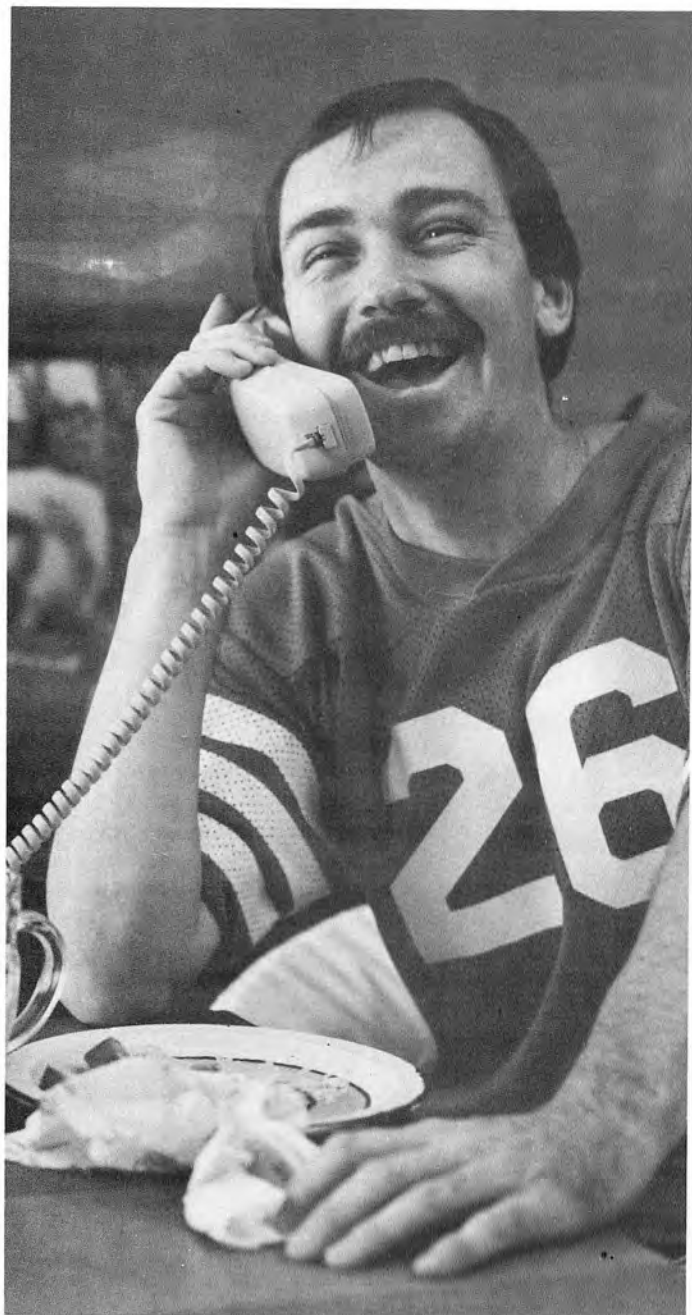
The national passing yardage soared to a record 329.4 yards per game (combining both teams) in 1981 and could go even higher this year. The old record was 315.4 in 1968. In the past two seasons, national passing stats have jumped 50.8 yards per games. In addition, 35.32 percent of all plays in college games at the Division I level were passes, compared to 32.83 in 1980. And the national pass completion percentage of .502 broke the record of .500 set the year before.

The major colleges also set records for yards per play (4.67) and total offense (668.2 per game for two opponents combined).

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Jim Beltzer (below) poses with the trophy bearing the ball used in the inaugural game of the Nebraska state league, founded by his father and uncle. Buck Beltzer is shown (far left, first row) on 1907 Nebraska team.

Beltzer: Now That's A Name With A Cornhusker Ring

Jim will accept the Clarence Swanson Award, but Buck Beltzer deserves a bow as the patriarch for three generations of Husker contributions.



By Tom Ash

At halftime of the season-opening football game against Iowa, Jim Beltzer of Grand Island will walk out onto the Memorial Stadium AstroTurf in front of another packed house of 76,000-plus. There, he will accept the Clarence E. Swanson Memorial Award for "service to University of Nebraska athletics."

The presentation will be part of a ceremony by the Nebraska Chapter of the National Football Foundation inducting new members into the Nebraska Football Hall of Fame.

Jim Beltzer will step forward alone to accept the award, a public acknowledgment of his consistent financial support of Cornhusker athletics, his untiring efforts in helping Nebraska coaches recruit such athletes as former quarterback Dave Humm and his unqualified endorsement and instrumental role in

bringing fellow Grand Islander John Sanders back from an Arizona junior college to lead a renaissance in Nebraska baseball.

But Jim Beltzer will not be alone in the acceptance. He will represent three generations of Beltzers who have contributed mightily to Nebraska athletics. The Beltzer name has been woven into Husker lore in football, baseball, golf and track for three quarters of a century.

The Swanson Award, therefore, will serve as a testimonial to the legacy of Oren Allen "Buck" Beltzer, a legacy of love for the university and unflagging support.

It will be a fitting recognition for the family elder who arrived at the university from Arapahoe in 1905 with only a turtleneck sweater to protect him from the harsh plains winter. Thanks to the

generosity of his heirs, his name is permanently etched on campus. The ongoing baseball revival under Sanders has taken place at Buck Beltzer Field.

To younger generations of Huskers, Buck Beltzer is only a name on the scoreboard in left center, but it is a name that represents the best in Cornhusker spirit and tradition.

He was one of a kind. He was the captain of the Husker football and baseball teams in 1909 — the only Nebraska athlete in history to captain both teams in the same season. Fifty years later, in 1959, he was scheduled to be the surprise guest of honor at an alumni celebration honoring his accomplishments before the Colorado game.

He never knew about it. On a quick trip to Chicago with his wife, Nell, the week before, he died of a cerebral

hemorrhage. He was 71.

But Buck Beltzer had crammed a whole lot of living into those 71 years. He had played professional baseball, toured the east and south with an Indian baseball team, formed a semi-pro league, owned a pool hall and theaters, farmed, tried real estate and built a financial institution. His mark was left on stadiums in Lincoln and Grand Island. And always there, his passion for gaming, the outdoors and giving.

Oren Allen Beltzer was born in a sod house in 1888 at Timber-Claim Homestead south of Stratton, Neb., and north of Atwood, Kans., the son of an itinerant tree salesman. The family's first permanent home was at Arapahoe when Oren was 9.

By the time he was graduated from Arapahoe High in 1905, he had acquired the moniker "Buck" for the way he bucked the line in football.

His older brother, Jim, had preceded him at the university and was a pitcher on the ball team, and Buck followed along. "He financed his first year by gambling with the rich fraternity boys. He had a little more incentive to win," said son Jim, recipient of the Swanson Award.

Buck was not an instant success as a Husker football player. He lined up at end against Minnesota in his first game. He recalled years later: "Of course, I did not dare let my man get outside of me for fear a forward pass would be flipped to him. So I followed him out each time. He was not used in many plays, so when the ball was snapped, he would step across the line and start slugging.

"After I recovered from my surprise, I came back at him as best I could. There we fought, from the time the ball was snapped until the whistle blew, and while I did my best, I was a green hand. As a result, I think almost any referee in the world would have given him the decision.

A rule had been made that year against slugging, but I suppose it was a little too new to be enforced at that time."

Nebraska lost that game, 8-5, and Coach W. C. "King" Cole relegated young Buck to the bench.

The year before, the forward pass had been introduced to football, but it was customary to shovel the ball underhanded.

"As I was not used on the team in practice any more, I had nothing to do



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during workouts except throw the ball around. While doing this, I happened to hit on the plan of gripping the ball in one hand and passing it overhand," Buck said.

"This proved a great improvement over the old way as it was much more accurate and the ball could be shot with greater speed. My ability to pass got me back on the team. I was used in the backfield in our last game of the season and was a regular halfback the remainder of my career."

Beltzer's football teams logged records of 8-2, 7-2-1 and 3-3-2. He was a pitcher and third baseman in baseball.

As captain, he also insisted on sportsmanship. A story in the *Lincoln Star* in 1909 told of his appeal for clean play in a team meeting. Captain Beltzer "said he would sooner see the Cornhusker team in defeat and know they had lost fair than have them victorious and feel it was done by unfair means," the story said. His words were greeted by an ovation.

As a young man of modest means, Buck learned the art of survival. To supplement his income from the fraternity boys, he and quarterback Harold "Pip" Cooke, a spindly sprinter on the track team, made the rounds of the county fairs, where wagering on footraces was commonplace.

Buck would negotiate the best possible odds against the local favorite while pointing into the stands at Cooke, who seemed a modest threat in his bib overalls. Then Cooke would strip to his track shorts and invariably win.

Beltzer earned six letters in football and baseball but left Nebraska without a degree after six years.

He passed the Nebraska bar exam and was admitted to practice law in the state in 1916. He never practiced, however.

Buck and brother Jim bought and managed Green's Nebraska Indian Baseball Team, a touring aggregation of plains Indians that included a few paleface ringers wearing warpaint and feathers. Jim was the advance agent, and Buck was the captain and manager.

It was a five-year adventure. Buck "got thrown in jail a lot," his son said. "The players would get into scrapes, and he'd get in the middle of it."

The Beltzer brothers formed the Nebraska State Baseball League, and one day a scout for Connie Mack's Philadelphia Athletics was in the stands for a look at Aurora's Clarence Mit-



Captain Beltzer as a young Buck



He was no instant success.

chell. Buck had a big day, and the scout signed him to a contract. Mitchell signed later.

Buck was a highly-regarded prospect on the A's farm team in Savannah, Ga., until he was felled by heat stroke and a brain tumor, from which he fully recovered.

Along the way, the Beltzer brothers and Charlie Moon built Landis Field outside the city limits so they could get around a city ban against Sunday baseball. It is now Sherman Field.

Buck also owned the Saratoga Billiard Room and Rialto and Grand Theaters. The pool hall, son Jim recalled from his childhood days, "was quite a place on Nebraska's game days. There was a big blackboard with all the bets on it."

"But an older man who my dad respected told him to sell the pool hall or he would never amount to anything. I think it was sound advice."

Buck moved to Grand Island in 1925 and bought an interest in the Grand Island Trust Company. He was president two years later. In 1935, he formed Home Federal Savings and Loan. Jim is president of the companies today.

As a businessman, Buck was one of the movers and shakers in Grand Island. For years, he was a member of an informal coffee club that included Jake Grasmick, Harold Prince, Ernie Frank, John Ditter, Pete Hedgecock, Earl Rembolt, Ralph Powell, Al Swihart, L. E. Ray, Bill Peterson and William Hehnke that met over the years at Schuster's, the Royal Chocolate Shop and Jamson's cafe.

Memorial Stadium at Grand Island Senior High and the Fonner Park race track were born over those coffee cups.

Jim Beltzer and latter-day Grand Island civic leaders have maintained the daily coffee tradition at the Yancey Hotel.

Buck's love of horse racing and combative nature are illustrated in one of Jim Beltzer's favorite stories:

For years, his father had made an annual pilgrimage to Santa Anita in California and had befriended a couple of former Nebraskans who supervised the valet parking in a celebrity lot. They let him park with the stars.

Buck drew immense pleasure when one of his pals would announce: "Mr. Fred Astaire's car, please...Mr. Buck Beltzer's car, please."

One day when Buck was 65, Jim was with him at Santa Anita when they

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Nell and Buck Beltzer in later years.

"John had a rather uncontrollable temper and was pretty hard to handle in those days. I like to think I did quite a bit for him," Beltzer said.

Said Sanders: "All of the Beltzers have a little bit of Buck in them. They're all successful, they have a competitive attitude and a lot of poise. They've done a lot of good things for people that go unnoticed.

"They're just good people. Truly successful people don't need to advertise it. They keep it in perspective. The Beltzers are willing to share and work for the betterment of other things."

So when Sanders asked for help in building a baseball facility, Jim and his sister, Joanne of Fremont, (wife of retired District Judge Robert L. Flory), made the contribution that made it possible.

"I wanted to help the baseball program," Jim said simply.

It was also a perfect way to permanently preserve the memory of Buck Beltzer on the Cornhusker campus.

"He was such a great man and so close to us," Buck's son said.

"He took care of a lot of young people. He never went to church, but he contributed generously quite often to many of the city's churches. He had his own kind of religion."

So when Jim Beltzer accepts the Swanson Award at halftime of the Iowa game, Buck Beltzer also will take his own kind of bow. ●

started to drive into the celebrity lot. A burly policeman stopped and refused to admit them. An argument ensued.

"Dad said, 'Why don't you take off that badge, and we'll settle this thing right here and now,'" Jim said. The bemused cop let them past.

"He always told me if you're going to get into a fight, make sure you get in the first blow. That's pretty sound advice. But he wasn't a rounder. He liked to go out with the boys. He liked to golf, fish and hunt," Jim said.

"Everybody was equal in his eyes. It didn't make any difference whether you were a janitor, waitress or whatever. He helped a lot of kids through school, and he did it quietly."

Jim came by his own love of the Cornhuskers naturally enough. He was hooked by the time he was 10 when his father took him into the football locker room to meet Coach E. E. Bearg and the team. Bearg told him he could have an autographed ball if he could recite the name and number of every player. He did.

Then there was the time when the Beltzers attended a game at Kansas. The car missed a turn on ice and crashed. Buck wired back to friends in Grand Island: "I never could hit a curve."

Jim went out for football as a quarterback on A. J. Lewandowski's 1935 Husker team, but a dislocated shoulder quickly ended his career. He played two years for football line coach

Link Lyman's golf team. It was a low-key venture.

"Link would pick up a case of beer and never go out on the course. We went to Iowa State once, and he went out with us. He got to the second hole, and it was hilly. He said, 'Hell, this is no game; this is a scenic tour.' He loved to sing and drink beer. He didn't drink it all," Jim said.

The third-generation Beltzer contribution to Cornhusker athletics came from Jim Jr., who set a state prep shot put record of 59-8¾ for G. I. High in 1962 and then established the Husker shot record at 58 feet.

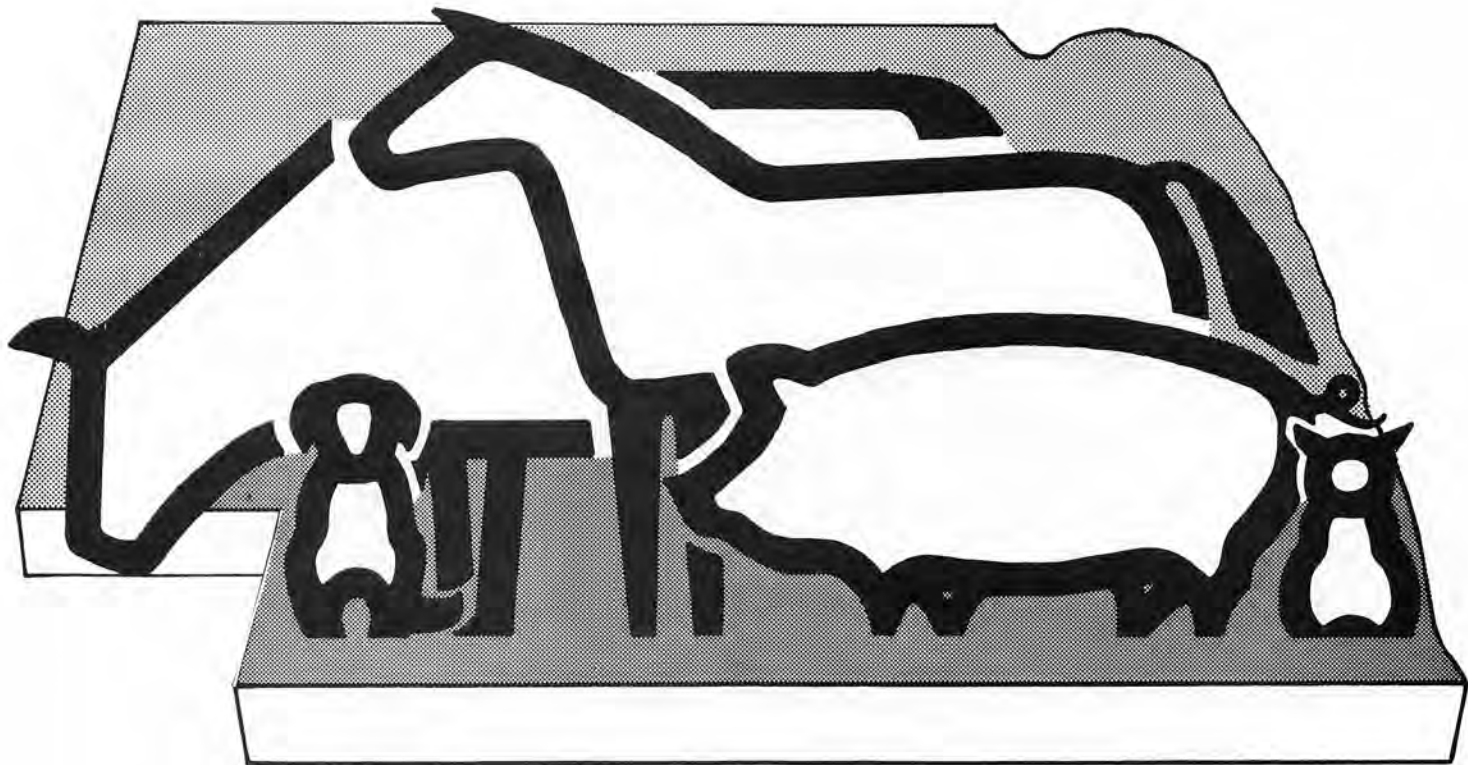
While coaching his own sons (Jim Jr., Steve and John) in Little League baseball, Jim came across a young firebrand named John Sanders. "He was the greatest I ever saw at that age. He was catching at 11 or 12 years old, and if there was a guy at first base, he'd just flick the ball down to first without ever leaving position," Jim said.

His fondest memory from those days came in the city championship, the Grand Island World Series. His team was winning easily, and Sanders had dominated. A fan from the other team was riding Beltzer unmercifully about leaving Sanders in. Beltzer ordered his catcher to bat left-handed.

Unbeknownst to Beltzer or his antagonist, Sanders was also adept playing a sandlot game of left-handed whiffleball. He hit it out southpaw.



Buck Beltzer



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HUSKERS TODAY

Returning home to Iowa for vacation visits over the last few months hasn't been easy for Nebraska football players Roger Craig, Jamie Williams, Steve McWhirter and Scott Raridon.

Being native Iowans, they've had to handle the generally good-natured ribbing which has naturally attended Nebraska's 10-7 loss to the University of Iowa last September in Iowa City. The good folks back home have "kinda rubbed it in," Craig said, an omnipresent smile showing the disappointment has long since dissipated.

"I expected that," said Craig.

Craig's expectation was the result of the unexpected: an Iowa victory. "Last

touchdown in last year's loss. "I'm not going to make any big statements about blowing away Iowa. I want to beat them because we didn't look too good there last year, and you always want your team to look like a first-class outfit."

"But I don't hold anything against Iowa because I'm from Iowa. They're just another team we've got to beat in order to be successful, that's all."

Craig and most of those in the Cornhusker camp, from head coach Tom Osborne on down, publicly take a matter-of-fact attitude when discussing the Nebraska-Iowa rivalry. There is no great chest-pounding, though NU holds a 23-12-3 series advantage, nor any of the symptoms of an all-out blood feud,

playing Iowa or playing Missouri, Colorado and Kansas," other universities which share borders and recruiting territories with Nebraska. In fact, in the case of those three schools, there's the additional dimension of a conference rivalry, something the Cornhuskers and Hawkeyes do not share.

To fans in both states, however, the series carries with it bragging rights, the basis for the needling Craig and Nebraska's other Iowa players have been forced to take.

Among the Nebraska fans old enough to remember, for instance, there might be some deep-seated resentment toward Iowa for having recruited its only Heisman Trophy winner from Nebraska. Halfback Nile Kinnick, for



Quarterback Mark Mauer was at the controls when the Huskers opened the 1981 season at Iowa. The Hawkeyes will have a much more explosive offense to contend with in 1982.

year, I think we were too overconfident. We got spoiled by the 57-0 game the season before," he said.

Craig was a freshman in 1979, when Nebraska defeated Iowa 24-21 in Iowa City, and he didn't make the NU varsity travel roster. As a result, the senior running back from Davenport, Iowa, officially stands 1-1 against his home state university in a four-game Cornhusker-Hawkeye series which will end on Sept. 11 at Memorial Stadium.

"I'd like to have the last laugh," said Craig, who scored Nebraska's only

at least not among the Nebraska participants.

As border wars go, it's nothing extraordinary, nothing on the order of Michigan-Ohio State or, in Big Eight Conference territory, Kansas-Missouri. Osborne has never pushed his car across the bridge from Council Bluffs to Omaha so he wouldn't have to buy gasoline in Iowa.

The latest renewal of a series which began with a 22-0 Iowa victory in 1891 has been "okay," Osborne said. "But there really isn't much difference in our

whom the Hawkeyes' stadium is named, won the Heisman, Maxwell and Walter Camp trophies in 1939. He was born and raised in Omaha, a graduate of Benson High School.

More recently, Iowa enticed Omaha Central High's Larry Station, the Nebraska prep athlete of the year according to the state's two major daily newspapers, to become a Hawkeye this fall. Station, however, is an exception. Most of the significant recruiting defections have been in the opposite direction.

Iowa wanted both Craig and Williams in the worst way. McWhirter, who suffered a season-ending knee injury in last year's game, is from Fairfield, just south of Iowa City. And Raridon played for a Mason City state AAAA championship team coached by former Cornhusker linebacker Barry Alvarez, who is now an Iowa assistant assigned to recruit in Nebraska.

On the surface, last year's Iowa victory might have given the Hawkeyes an advantage in luring Station away from Nebraska, but "I don't think one specific game is that important (in recruiting)," said NU assistant coach John Melton, whose recruiting efforts have helped bring several good players from Iowa to Nebraska.

Bellevue's Stan Parker and Omaha's Pernell Gatson, Station's teammate at Central, rivaled Station as Nebraska's best prep athlete. Both were recruited by Iowa, but both picked Nebraska.

"It certainly doesn't hurt you to win (individual games with a team), but I think the players look at your overall program through the years," Melton said.

Williams' decision is evidence of that. Nebraska's All-American candidate at tight end picked the Cornhuskers over Iowa State, among other schools, at a time when the Cyclones had won two in a row from Nebraska. One year later, Craig followed his high school teammate across the border and into Lincoln.

Craig, of course, was a special case. His brother, Curtis, started three seasons at wingback for Nebraska, and Roger says now he never had designs on any school but Nebraska even though he was highly recruited by schools across the country. Even so, "I don't think any players sit down and worry about the history of which school won more games from the other," Craig said.

"Nebraska wins, goes to a bowl game every year, and plays on television a lot. It's a first-class organization and has more to offer. That's why the good players from Iowa like to come here."

That doesn't mean Craig hasn't enjoyed the opportunity to play against the home state university he jilted. Back when he attended Cornhusker games in order to watch Curtis perform, he checked Nebraska's future schedules just to remind himself that Iowa was there all four years of his college career. "I was always on top of things like that in high school," said Craig, who was a prep All-American.

"I'd look at those schedules, and I'd see Iowa. It's nice to be able to play against your home state like that so the people back home can watch you."

That's why Nebraska's television highlights program is aired in the Davenport-Quad Cities area as well as several other prime viewing markets across the country. It's a recruiting plus wherever the show is replayed. Iowa head coach Hayden Fry's weekly half-

Huskers Want Last Laugh In Hawk Series

Iowa players on Nebraska squad have taken their guff; reminders of loss are incentive for home opener.

By Mike Babcock

Dave Rimington (50) led the blocking for fullback Phil Bates (43) last year against the Hawks. This fall Rimington and two of his backs — Roger Craig and Mike Rozier — are All-American hopefuls.





Jamie Williams



Scott Raridon



Steve McWhirter



Roger Craig

hour show has been carried in Nebraska by an Omaha television station for the same reason.

Two years ago, the people back home watched as Craig scored two touchdowns and rushed for 78 yards in Nebraska's 57-0 victory. The game was billed as a showdown between running backs Jarvis Redwine of Nebraska and Jeff Brown of Iowa, but the individual battle never materialized. Redwine carried 12 times for 153 yards. Less than a minute and a half into the first quarter, he bolted 69 yards for a touchdown. Brown was limited to 51 yards rushing in 15 attempts.

By halftime, Nebraska led 35-0. The game's outcome was no longer in doubt.

Fry's first Iowa team initiated the four-game series by putting a scare into Nebraska at Iowa City in 1979. A pair of defensive ends from Nebraska, Jim Molini and Bryan Skradis, played their hearts out for Iowa, trying to prove that Nebraska made a mistake in not recruiting them, but Dean Sukup's 30-yard field goal with 5:52 left in the game disappointed a capacity crowd in Kinnick Stadium.

It was a real victory for the Cornhuskers and a moral victory for the long-suffering Hawkeyes. Nebraska's Iowa players had to deal with the verbal fallout of that narrow escape until the 57-0 drubbing the next September.

According to Osborne, by the time a recruit sits down in February to sign a letter of intent, he's most likely forgotten the outcomes of such games, especially if he didn't attend them. "When we beat Iowa 57-0, I suppose a recruit wouldn't have been too impressed (with the Hawkeyes)," Osborne said. "But I think most (recruits) look at your program, not whether you've

beaten a team 10 years in a row."

The 57-0 game did produce the most significant controversy in this latest renewal of a Nebraska-Iowa series which was discontinued in 1946. One week after the Cornhuskers had humiliated his team, Fry charged Osborne with unethical acquisition of game films from Fry's previous coaching stop at North Texas State.

Fry, who seemed intent on stirring up a real border feud in the process of explaining an embarrassing loss, claimed that Nebraska had obtained the films from Jerry Moore, a former Cornhusker assistant who was then the head coach at North Texas State.

Although having the films would have been legal under NCAA regulations, Osborne denied the charges. The differences apparently were patched up several months later at an NCAA convention in Miami, Fla.

Fry's personality has heightened the schools' rivalry and provided a stark contrast to that of Osborne. The Nebraska head coach is reserved and scholarly; Fry is flamboyant with a used car salesman's cunning disguised as good-old-boy wit and country wisdom. "You gotta scratch where it itches," he says, metaphorically expressing his philosophy of winning football.

Last season prior to the Nebraska game, Fry took on the news media, refusing to grant personal interviews and placing his players off-limits to the press, both from Iowa and from Nebraska. After the Hawkeyes' upset victory over the Cornhuskers, he chastized the Iowa press for its treatment of his fledgling program and apologized to the Nebraska media for failing to return calls and being unwilling to give pre-game interviews.

In the stifling heat and humidity of a

September afternoon in Iowa City, Iowa surprised Nebraska by scoring early and then holding on with an aggressive defense and the punting of Reggie Roby, who averaged over 50 yards per kick. The Hawkeyes emerged with a 10-7 victory and went on to produce their school's first winning season since 1961, the last time Nebraska had a losing record.

Their victory over the Cornhuskers was the springboard to the program's remarkable turnaround in a season which ended with a Rose Bowl appearance against Washington.

Iowa's success of a year ago should be incentive for Nebraska in this season's opener. To begin with, you've got to remember "the first game is always very important," said Craig, who, along with fellow Iowans Williams and McWhirter, will be playing in the first game of his last season as a collegian.

"It's just begun to hit me that this is my last year," Craig said after a brief visit to Davenport in late June. "Everything went by so fast."

The same can be said of the Nebraska-Iowa series. Next fall, the Cornhuskers will draw their non-conference Big Ten competition from Minnesota, which returns to the schedule for the first time since 1974.

The Cornhuskers play the Golden Gophers home-and-home, go against Illinois, and then drop the Big Ten until 1989, when Minnesota appears again. Iowa, however, does not reappear in the near future. "It's been a good series," said Melton, whose recruiting travels have familiarized him with the Hawkeye state.

But, Melton added: "Minnesota will be a good one, too."●

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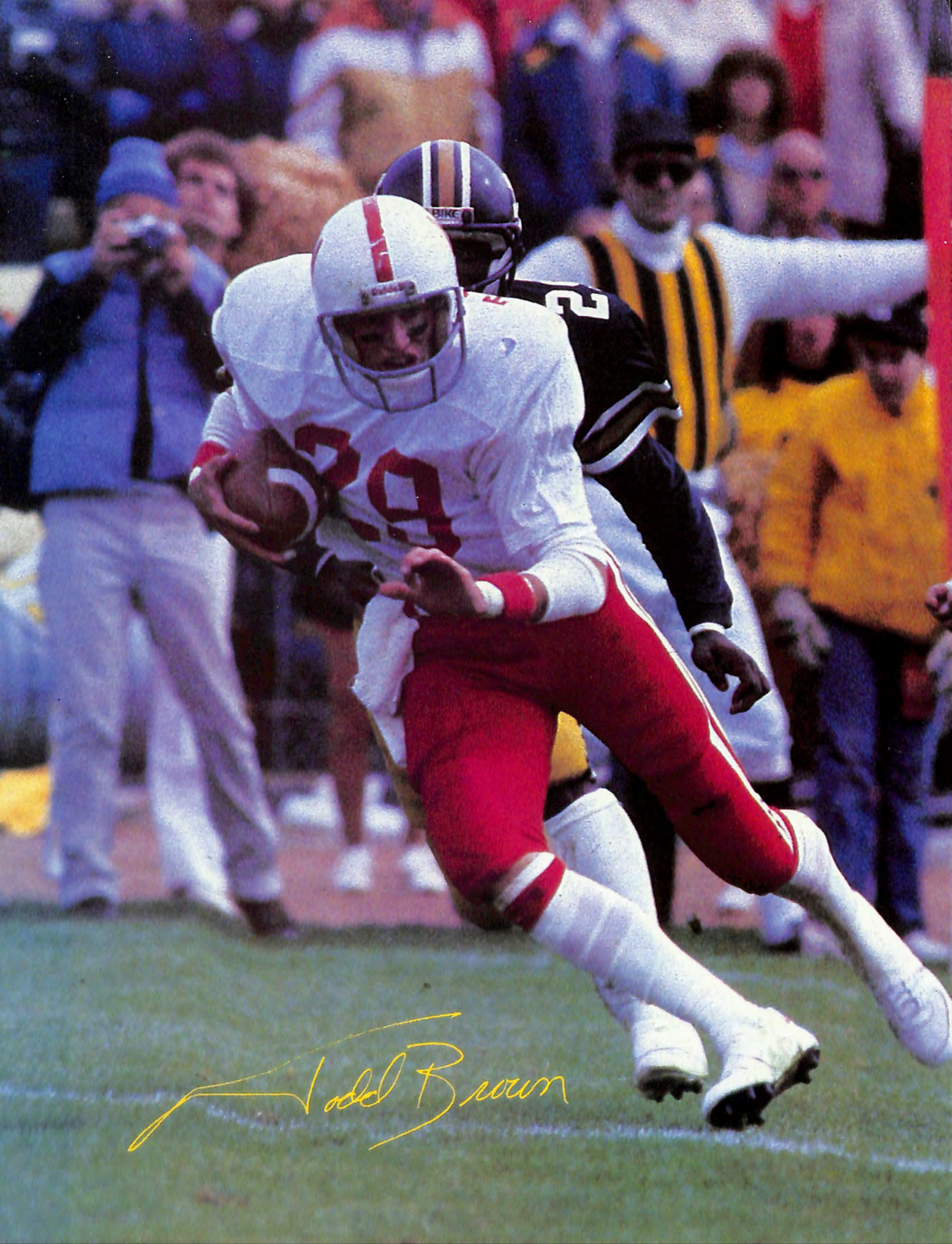
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Ladd Brown



Lexington, Home Of Champs, Keeps NU Supply Line Open

*Naviaux, Murphy, Tingelhoff, Kiffin, Strohmeyer, Harvey,
Mandelko, Holbrook, Stuckey...etc.*

By Chuck Sinclair

In many ways, Lexington is no different than a number of rural midwestern communities.

Residents in the west-central Nebraska town of 5,654 love their athletics...much like they do in many communities of similar size.

The daily topic of conversation in downtown cafes almost always centers around the sport in season, at either Lexington High School or the University of Nebraska. Lexington is a proud sporting community.

A new sign with a fresh coat of paint proclaiming Lexington the "Home of the Champions," stands near the sale barn as you come into town. That bold statement backed with a listing of achievements in all sports, is the mark of a well-rounded sports-minded community.

Like so many other places, the kids of Lexington have dreams. They dream of winning and they dream of state championships. One of the foremost dreams of Lexington's young men, however, is the dream of playing football for the University of Nebraska.

But in Lexington, unlike many of those other communities that appear

similar in many respects, those dreams become reality at an ever-increasing pace.

There are names from the past like Larry Naviaux, Mick Tinglehoff, Dallas Dyer, Monte Kiffin, John Strohmeyer and more recently, Ted Harvey.

In a state where football is king and Nebraska football is the reigning monarch, Lexington now holds a king's ransom of athletes in pursuit of that particular dream.

Some of them are tremendously talented and some are potentially talented. Most seem to be gifted with discipline, determination and desire.

Going into the 1982 season, one many figure a year of national championship potential, four former Lexington Minutemen are among the top two units of Nebraska players.

Senior Mike Mandelko, the No. 1 left guard, earned second team All-Big Eight honors from Associated Press last year. Junior Jim Murphy, son of former Nebraska co-captain, Jim Sr., and nephew of Kiffin, goes into fall camp as the No. 1 right cornerback. Senior Tim Holbrook is listed as an

alternate at monster with Kris Van Norman, and sophomore Rob Stuckey is currently No. 2 behind Doug Herrmann at right defensive tackle.

Sophomore defensive tackle Rod Reynolds, another walkon, is attempting to follow the Lexington tradition. He is a likely redshirt candidate this fall.

Kiffin, a former Nebraska Prep Athlete of the Year from Lexington who went on to play and coach for Nebraska, and is currently the head coach at North Carolina State, sees the Lexington connection as impressive by any standards.

"I recruit all the big cities back east now," Kiffin says. "It's amazing that there are as many people in one block in New York City as there are in Lexington, but the ratio of college players produced by Lexington is a lot higher than a place like New York City."

"It seems to run in cycles in most places, and Lexington has had a few lean years when it comes to producing players. But for the most part, Lexington has kept the tradition going," Kiffin said. "Maybe it's because there's not much else to do in Lexington. There's a lot to do besides athletics in

the cities I recruit. But sports are a big thing in the lives of people in Lexington, and that's good."

Kiffin knows about the Lexington tradition because he was part of it. Many feel he was a big part of that tradition the way he, Mick Tinglehoff and Dallas Dyer all came into play major roles on Nebraska teams of the early 1960s.

But even though Kiffin was a part of the tradition, it doesn't make it any easier to explain.

"I don't know if you can put a finger on it because every boy you come across, even in the same community, is different in many ways," Kiffin said. "In my case, football got in my blood when my father took me to games when a ticket in the knothole section was twenty-five cents. I had an idol by the name of Larry Naviaux. He was three years ahead of me and started as a sophomore for Nebraska. He was one of the first I can remember from Lexington. I used to look up to that guy all the time."

Nebraska football then became a part of Kiffin's dreams. Kiffin himself became the idol of many, just like Tinglehoff and Dyer from his era.

"You look at guys like Jim Murphy this year," Kiffin added. "His idol was Teddy Harvey. Somebody else is going to idolize Jim Murphy. He was a true walkon with no business being there. It makes the game fun when guys like Jim can make it with patience or dedication. There are a lot of kids who walkon, but not many with the patience and dedication to make it stick."

"I really missed on that kid," he said. "I wish I would have known he was going to turn out to be that kind of player. I passed him up. He should have been playing for his Uncle Kiff."

There will always be someone to idolize the players like Jim, Mandelko, Stuckey and Holbrook. As long as there are people for young kids to look up to and remember, the tradition will remain alive."

While Lexington's lean years gap the graduation of Kiffin to Strohmyer to Harvey, Kiffin did his part to maintain the Lexington connection as a Husker assistant coach from 1967 to the acceptance of his position with North Carolina State three years ago.

"I look at Monte Kiffin as a big part of that Lexington tradition," current NU Defensive Coordinator Charlie McBride said. "There are a lot of young

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Lexington has produced players like (left to right in top photo) Mike Mandelko, Rob Stuckey and Tim Holbrook, as well as former NU co-captain Jim and Jim, Jr. (photo below).

kids who are family and friends of Monte Kiffin at Lexington. The town has formed a tradition because of it. The kids have had something to shoot for and they've fought and stuck it out. It's not something that happens overnight. They've all worked hard. Lesser kids wouldn't have made it."

McBride got a lesson a couple of years ago he won't soon forget about Lexington determination. Mike Skulley, a four-year Husker who never made it big, showed McBride just what determination is.

"Mike hardly ever played, but he was at practice every day, working just as hard as he could," McBride said. "He gave it all he could for four years. A lesser kid would have bailed out."

One spring game, McBride inadvertently forgot to get Sculley into the action. "He was mad," McBride said. "I felt real bad because it was my fault, an oversight. But he stuck it out, and most important, he participated. That meant everything to him."

McBride likes to credit the high school coaches of the Lexington players, along with their parents, for their gummy determination and drive.

"As far as a group of kids, I can't say enough about Lexington kids," McBride said. "They all work hard. They do everything you ask. Kids like Murphy and Holbrook have really fought hard for everything they've got. I think it goes back to their parents and their high school coaches."

Iowa linebacker coach Barry Alvarez is one McBride gives a big share of the credit, along with current coach Dennis Thorell. Both are former Nebraska players.

Alvarez credits the community for its role in giving the coach support.

"Athletics are very important to those people out there," Alvarez said. "It might not be the garden spot of the world, but the people live and die with their sports rivalries. And football is the king...it's everything. That's why I left Lincoln (Northeast) to take the job when everyone thought I was crazy."

"The kids out there are a different breed of cat," he added. "It was a shock to me when I first moved from Lexington to Mason City, (Iowa). Athletics weren't important to the kids there like they were in Lexington. You get spoiled in a place like Lexington. There's no question about it."

While Alvarez isn't naive enough to think he could go into Lexington and recruit players away from Nebraska where they've always dreamed of playing, he'd "sure as hell like to have those four kids they've got now. Three of those kids were sophomores for me. Holbrook, Murphy and Mandelko were sophomores for me, and we brought Stuckey out for a visit. It's fun to get kids with that kind of background."

"Murphy is probably the best example," Alvarez said. "Here's a kid who was not a great athlete. I talked him into coming out for wrestling as a 98-pound freshman and he made the state tournament. I think originally Jimmy just walked-on down at Nebraska to stay in shape. You're never going to beat that kid mentally. He's not going to make any mental mistakes."

Murphy's father, Jim Sr., recalls the freshman wrestling escapade.

"Barry taught him two holds and that was it," Jim Sr., said. "He went as far as he could on two holds. He was 112-pounds when he started, but had to cut to 98-pounds to be competitive. That's the discipline we talk about out

CONTINUED ON 56





Mailbag

If you have questions or comments, you may write the
BIG RED MAILBAG
Box 83222
Lincoln, NE 68501

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I cannot express the joy I feel when I receive my **Huskies Illustrated**. I think you people are doing a super fine job, and I hope you can keep up the fine work in future issues.

As I fill out my order for another year's subscription, I once again request my free medallion. I never received the one I requested last year (Jarvis Redwine). Is this an oversight, or have you run out?

Also, as I am soon to be moving to San Bernardino, Calif., I'd like to request any information you may have on the famous Californians for Nebraska. I'd sure like to make new friends when I get there.

Beat OU:

Steve Mittern, USAF,
Cheyenne, Wyo.

•Steve, no, we haven't run out of the 1980 medallions and we have recently mailed yours to you. In the 1981 "FCA Edition" of the Nebraska vs Iowa State Weekly Update, we asked that subscribers make written request for their free medallions so we would know how many medallions to have minted and also to guard against loss in the mail.

Perhaps the first one we mailed to you was a postal casualty. (See page 48, this issue, for 1981 Medallion message.)

Information on the CFN, the go-getting booster organization in southern California, can be obtained from Otto Baumann, 2415 Country Club Drive., Glendora, Calif., 91740 — ED.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

Enclosed is a check for \$7 to cover first-class postage for this year's subscription, which I renewed recently. Living in the land of lightweight

schedules, regular coaching overthrows and what seems like constant NCAA investigation, you learn to appreciate a truly first-class organization. And I miss it terribly. Your publication is incredible. Keep it up.

You can take the boy out of Nebraska, but you can't take Nebraska out of the boy.

Tim Mettenbrink,
Scottsdale, Ariz.

•Tim's note included a slide of his Arizona license plate: NEBR 1 — ED.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I have a suggestion for something I would like you to consider in future magazines. I would like to see Big Eight standings for basketball, baseball, wrestling, swimming, etc. in every issue during the season they are played.

I would also like to see individual player statistics in each issue for the above sports. You cover football this way, and I would like to see other sports covered also. For people who no

longer live in Nebraska, this is the only way we can read about the Big Eight when you live in Big 10 country.

Bruce Neel,
Park Forest, Ill.

•Standings and statistics during the season are outdated by the time the magazine reaches the reader. We will, however, try to provide such information at season's end. **Huskies Illustrated** also welcomes suggestions such as reader Neel's — ED.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

Being a Big Red Fan from western Nebraska, I am enclosing a picture of a latch hook wall hanging. It was done by my girlfriend, my mother and myself.

The project took five weeks and was worth every minute of our time. The hanging measures 58 x 38 inches and is displayed in the family room.

Hoping Nebraska football has another fantastic year, as I will always be a Husker from western Nebraska — Big Red Country.

Steve H. Kautz,
Gering, Neb.

•Sorry, we couldn't use the photo, but we enjoyed seeing the panhandle handiwork — ED.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I like your magazine. I am 10 years old. I have just seen two of your issues for the first time. I think they're great. Could I have Turner Gill's autograph?

Paul Deines,
Gering, Neb.

•Sorry, Paul, but we can't supply autographs. You can, however, write to Turner and any other Husker player through the Sports Information Office, 116 South Stadium, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska 68588 — ED.



Title Chase Wide Open

Pitt's the early favorite, but that could change quickly.

Notre Dame and Michigan on the second weekend of the 1981 football season. It was the dream game of the year before many of the nation's college gridiron fans had had a chance to buy new stadium cushions. The Fighting Irish, ranked second or third by most pre-season polls, and the Wolverines of Michigan, ranked No. 1 by nearly everyone.

Except that it never got a chance to be the dream game it was supposed to be. Michigan was stunned by Wisconsin in its season opener, 21-14. When Notre Dame lost to the Wolverines, 25-7, and then fell to Purdue the following week, it became obvious that the clash of the titans hadn't been nearly as important as the college football world thought it would be.

Actually, the national championship came down to showdowns like Clemson 10, North Carolina 8 and Clemson 13, Georgia 3. And Arkansas 42, Texas 11. And Georgia Tech 24, Alabama 21. Or Penn State 48, Pitt 14 after Alabama had bombed Penn State, 31-16.

Thanks to television, there will be another early shootout for the national championship this fall. Many of the experts tell us we'll know who the king of 1982 will be after Clemson's defending champs take on Georgia Sept. 6 and Pitt hosts North Carolina Sept. 9.

After Georgia in 1980 and Clemson in 1981, however, the odds are those early headliners may wind up being not so big after all. Alabama, Ohio State, Oklahoma and Nebraska would like to see the national championship returned to the Establishment. Washington has the type of schedule, personnel and coaching to take an unbeaten record to the Rose Bowl — unless upstart Arizona State can find an offense to go with what should be an awesome defense. And who knows what Cinderella story might be lurking out there in the world of Saturday madness? Now that the alligator is off the endangered species list, could Florida be set to put it all together? Are the Ponies from Southern Methodist ready to make Dallas on Saturday even bigger than it's been on Friday nights?

While Pitt was most often cited as No. 1 in pre-season polls, the Panthers will have a tough road to the final top spot. Not only do they have that opener against a very legitimate contender (North Carolina) and the season finale against a Penn State team which is also rated a shot at the national championship, but new head coach Serafino "Foge" Fazio must also take his team to Florida State and Illinois (another potential Cinderella) the second and third weeks of the season, and then faces rugged West Virginia at home Oct. 2.

If the Panthers are unbeaten at that time and have a

healthy Dan Marino, it might be all over for the rest of the pack. Notre Dame comes to Pittsburgh Nov. 6, but the Irish do not appear capable of making a complete overhaul following last year's surprising 5-6 campaign. The Pitt closer at Penn State is set for Friday, Nov. 26, after most of the major bowl bids will have gone out. That one could, indeed, decide the national championship.

There is probably no team in the country with a better blend of All-American candidates at both the skill positions and the line, both offense and defense. Quarterback Marino, of course, is a leading candidate for the Heisman Trophy as he heads into his senior season. He's led the Panthers to back-to-back 11-1 campaigns, including last year's Sugar Bowl win over Georgia and Walker. And Marino will have two All-American receivers as targets in split end Julius Dawkins and flanker Dwight Collins. Tight end John Brown had 43 catches last year, only three behind Dawkins and 23 more than the injured Collins.

But Pitt is much more than an aerial circus. Bryan Thomas gained 1,132 yards last fall and he'll run well again this year behind a line that includes Outland Trophy hopeful Jimbo Covert and sophomore sensation Bill Fralic. The defense, which had to be completely rebuilt last season, should be stifling. End Michael Woods had 13 quarterback sacks in 1981, while many feel J.C. Pelusi is the top nose guard in the East. Rich Kraynak had 104 tackles last fall.

Following in this feature are capsules on some of the top contenders for national honors, with teams listed alphabetically. (Oklahoma and Nebraska and the rest of the Big Eight Conference were detailed in last month's *Illustrated*.)

ALABAMA — While football fans from Los Angeles to Pittsburgh complain about the Crimson Tide's weak schedule year after year, it was the unlikely combination of Georgia Tech (21-24) and Southern Mississippi (13-13) which dearly cost Coach Paul Bryant and his squad last year. If Alabama is to be stopped this fall, it will probably have to be from another of those unsuspected sources. Stiff challenges are few and far between for the Bear. Penn State, undoubtedly out for revenge, will visit Alabama Oct. 9, with the Tide going to Mississippi State Oct. 30. Tennessee, LSU and Auburn could be dangerous, but the presence of Arkansas State and Cincinnati on the schedule will help. Talent wise, Bama has the ingredients for another great year. Walter Lewis and Ken Coley return to direct the Wishbone offense, with fine running support in Joe Carter, Jeff Fagan, Linnie Patrick, Mickey Guinyard and Ricky Moore. And wide receivers Jesse Bendross and Joey Jones can get six points in a hurry.

Center Steve Mott is the hub of another fine Alabama

line on offense, while the defense has a bulletproof look. End Mike Pitts (6-5, 250) has made some pre-season All-American teams and safety Tommy Wilcox made several teams last year. Linebacker Robbie Jones (6-3, 230) is typical Tide, with a crew of veterans surrounding him on the line and the secondary.

ARIZONA STATE — The Sun Devils, beginning to get accustomed to the Pac-10 Conference, lost seven starters from a dazzling offensive powerhouse. The jury will be out on how the replacements do until at least Oct. 30 when ASU hosts Southern Cal. But an early schedule which includes Oregon, Utah, Houston, California, Kansas State, Stanford and Texas-El Paso should be just what Coach Darryl Rogers needs. Todd Hons and Sandy Osiecky are battling for the quarterback job in Tempe, while Jerome Weatherspoon and Doug Allen promise to give the new signal caller outstanding targets.

Willie Crittens and Mike Cade are two of the top running threats, but the offensive line must be rebuilt. The defense does not. The Sun Devils have All-Americans in linebacker Vernon Maxwell (6-2, 230) and safety Mike Richardson, as well as all-star candidates in Jim Jeffcoat (6-6, 260) and Bryan Campbell. If the defense doesn't have to carry the offense too far or too long, this could be a break-through year for Arizona State.

ARKANSAS — Was Arkansas as good a team as the one which routed Texas, 42-11, last year, or as bad as the one which lost to TCU, 28-24? The Razorbacks definitely had their ups and downs in 1981. The material is on hand this fall to keep Coach Lou Holtz "up" from start to finish. Tulsa, Navy and Mississippi provide a tuning up non-conference schedule which should not wreck the Hogs, but the Southwest Conference slate will be tough with Texas, Houston, Baylor and SMU all on the road. Having the Texas game moved into December for national tv exposure probably helps the Horns more than Holtz, as Arkansas was in the middle of Oklahoma and SMU on the initial UT schedule.

Whether veteran Tom Jones or sophomore Brad Taylor (6-0, 180) is pulling the trigger, the Hogs should be much steadier at quarterback. Taylor showed brilliance as a freshman when Jones was injured. But Arkansas is still looking for receivers to complement those aerialists. Derek Holloway and Mark Mistler between them had only 31 last fall. Gary Anderson is one of the nation's most dangerous runners, whether he's at halfback or flanker. Steve Korte (6-3, 265) may be the most under-rated offensive lineman in the country. Two other full-time starters return there. The defense, of course, starts with end Billy Ray Smith (6-4, 230), who is the best big-play man in the country. Ron Fautot (6-8, 260) has had greatness predicted for him for two years now. Richard Richardson is tough at nose guard and Phillip Boren (6-5, 270) is a solid hand at tackle. The linebacking and secondary crews are experienced, but some say lack talent. Indeed, Holtz must shore up his defensive backfield or the same thing that happened when TCU rallied could happen again in 1982.

CLEMSON — The Tigers did not find a place in the Top 20 last year before the season began and had a difficult time gaining a berth in the Top 10 after rolling along unbeaten for more than half the year. There were still those who felt confident Coach Danny Ford's club would give up the ghost in the Orange Bowl against Nebraska and allow a REAL

team to claim the national title. But the Paws had claws enough to finish the season unbeaten and No. 1.

One of the motivators on that club returns this season in quarterback Homer Jordan. He'll be joined by running backs Cliff Austin and Chuck McSwain. But the offensive line is full of holes after graduation, and therein lies the doubt over Clemson's being able to defend that title. Defensively, the Atlantic Coast Conference champs should be strong once again. Dan Benish (6-6, 250) is one of the best around, and he's surrounded by all-star types who should make it tough once more to take liberties with Clemson. Terry Kinard was an All-American at cornerback last year and will hold the secondary together until some talented new faces gain experience. The schedule is a good one, with the opener against Georgia (on the road) followed by three straight home games with less than awesome foes (Boston College, West Carolina and Kentucky). A Nov. 6 showdown with North Carolina is also on the Paws' home ground. Ford could easily take another 10-1 or 9-2 team to a major bowl.

FLORIDA — There would seem to be no way last year's Gators could have lost five games. But they did. This year Coach Charlie Pell has a veteran team that could win the Southeast Conference. Or it could lose five or six games. Scheduling is not a friend of Florida. After a Sept. 4 opener with Miami (a 20-21 loss for U of F last year), Pell entertains Southern Cal, Mississippi State and LSU over the next four weeks (with an open date along the way). Should the Gators get through that gauntlet with a 4-0 record, look out! That would leave only a Nov. 6 home date with Georgia as the last roadblock to the Sugar Bowl, although Auburn (also in Gainesville) could be dangerous.

The lack of a sound ground game hurt Florida last year. Pell hopes that senior James Jones (6-3, 230) will be healthy and productive this fall. But he still needs a breakaway threat at tailback. Wayne Peace (6-2, 215) gets lost in the glitter of so many talented quarterbacks in the South, but threw for 1,803 yards and 11 touchdowns in 1981. Spencer Jackson, Broughton Lang and Chris Faulkner are outstanding receivers. The offensive line welcomes back four starters. But defense is the area where Florida can brag legitimately. Wilber Marshall (6-1, 230) had 121 tackles last season, 16 for losses. Alonzo Johnson (6-4, 225) showed great promise last year as a freshman linebacker. Tony Lilley leads the secondary.

GEORGIA — If the Bulldogs find a quarterback and wide receiver or two to go along with Herschel Walker, a veteran offensive line and superb defense, things could be all peaches in Athens once again. But those are big "ifs." As much as Coach Vince Dooley loves having Walker around for two more years, he'd certainly feel better about this fall if he hadn't lost quarterback Buck Belue and flanker Lindsey Scott. Still, Georgia has the nucleus for another championship team and a schedule that favors an 11-0 or 10-1 regular season.

After the home opener with Clemson (revenge has to be on the Dogs' minds), there is an Oct. 2 road date at Mississippi State (those two did not play last year) and the Nov. 6 trip to Gainesville, Fla. Other than that, the Sugar Bowl looks to be a very real possibility, depending upon Alabama's success against its league foes. Walker, of course, is the main offensive threat for Georgia, as he has been as a freshman and sophomore. The new quarterback

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will likely be John Lastinger or Jeff Paulk, both veteran understudies. Heralded rookie Jamie Harris could change that. The line, from tight end Norris Brown (6-3, 225) right on over to split ends Chuck Jones and Charles Junior is among the best in the land. Jimmy Harper (6-5, 270 tackle) is on the All-American lists of several.

The Bulldog defense is loaded. Tackle Jimmy Payne (6-4, 250) is another All-American candidate, while Freddie Gilbert (6-4, 230) at end could make some all-star teams as well. Junior linebacker Tommy Thurson (6-2, 220) heads an unheralded, but steady crew there. And Ronnie Harris at cornerback is outstanding. Kicking should be a strong suit for Georgia, with Kevin Butler making it big in his debut year last fall and punter Jim Broadway an accomplished performer.

MIAMI OF FLORIDA — Two of the top teams in the nation were not in bowl games last fall. This was one of them. The Hurricane posted a 9-2 record, then stayed home due to probation. This year, with quarterback Jim Kelly (6-3, 215) returning, Coach Howard Schnellenberger should again field a strong squad. But perhaps not strong enough for a schedule which begins with a road date at Florida and also includes Houston, Notre Dame, Mississippi State, Florida State and ACC hopefuls Maryland and North Carolina State.

Kelly should find wide receiver Rocky Belk open enough to post another fine year of statistics, but there are only two returnees up front and little in the way of firepower at running back. Defensively, Miami lost six starters to graduation. Tony Chickillo (6-3, 250) will move from middle guard to tackle and Leon Evans (6-7, 265) hopes to catch the eyes of the pro scouts at the other tackle. The secondary lost two standouts, but has talented backups available. The Hurricane has to hope for an upset of Florida, which will give them time to rebuild before mid-season tests against Notre Dame and Miss State.

MICHIGAN — The Wolverines were so loaded last year it was impossible for anyone to envision losses to Wisconsin, Iowa and Ohio State in the Big 10. This year Coach Bo Schembechler is having to find replacements for his running backs and offensive line. And he faces an imposing schedule which once again features Wisconsin, Notre Dame and now UCLA and Indiana before the annual state warfare with Michigan State. Michigan must also meet Iowa, Illinois and Ohio State on the road. That may just be too much of a challenge for a team trying to rebuild on offense.

But the Wolverines do have the game's No. 1 game-breaker in flanker Anthony Carter, who has been an All-American as a sophomore and junior. Quarterback Steve Smith showed promise last year as a sophomore and should be much more effective this fall if he can find some help in addition to Carter. Lawrence Ricks (5-10, 195) is counted on to help replace Butch Woolfolk at tailback. But only center Tom Dixon (6-1, 245) and guard Stefan Humphries (6-3, 250) return up front.

There is plenty of experience on defense, as eight starters return. But there are some big question marks. Mike Boren (6-2, 220) and Paul Girgash (6-1, 210) led the Wolverines in tackles last fall at linebacker. Keith Bostic is an All-American type at safety.

MISSISSIPPI STATE — While some will complain about the fact that the Southeast Conference powers do not always play each other, Bulldog Coach Emory Ballard has

every right to complain about his team having to make up for those shortcomings. This year MSU will face Florida, Georgia, Alabama and LSU in conference clashes that would tax any club. Ballard's Bulldogs must also take on potentially tough Auburn, and plays only four games at home.

After two straight bowl game appearances against Big Eight schools, however, Mississippi State is beginning to feel like it should win. And the Bulldogs have a wealth of experience on both offense and defense. Quarterback John Bond (6-4, 210) is back to run the Wingbone offense once again, and he'll have a dangerous running threat in big senior Michael Haddix (6-3, 220). Tight end Jerry Price (6-5, 245) is a good one, while senior guard Wayne Harris (6-3, 280) will undoubtedly be high on the pro draft list next year. The deep and experienced offensive line also features center Kent Hull (6-5, 260).

Defensively, end Billy Jackson (6-1, 230) gained stardom last year as a sophomore. Earnie Barnes (6-5, 265) at one tackle is another solid performer. Punter Dana Moore averaged 41.7 yards last year. The secondary is experienced and talented.

NORTH CAROLINA — Two years ago Rod Elkins took over as starting quarterback for the Tar Heels and led his team to an 11-1 season, which included a bowl win over Texas. Only a loss to Oklahoma kept Coach Dick Crum's team from fighting it out toe-to-toe with Georgia for a national championship. Last year Elkins was at the controls again as NC posted a 9-2 record, overcoming a damaging injury to All-American running back Kelvin Bryant. A 10-8 loss to Clemson was the real blow.

Now Elkins is back for another try, and so is Bryant. Not only that, the Tar Heels have one of the nation's biggest and most talented offensive line and a defense that returns six starters. With an opening win against Pitt, Crum's club could be off to the races for that elusive national title — matching the crown won by the NC basketball team last winter.

Bryant (6-2, 195) scored 15 touchdowns and rushed for 520 yards in his first three games last year before being sidelined by a knee injury. He came back to finish with 1,015 yards in less than seven games, rushing for 247 in the regular season finale against Duke. Elkins (6-1, 205) passed for 994 yards and 10 touchdowns last year. The line should be superb, featuring Ron Spruill (6-2, 250), Mike Marr (6-4, 265), All-America hopeful David Drechsler (6-5, 260) and Steve McGrew (6-2, 245). On defense last year the Heels allowed only 296 yards a game total. Two of the key members of that defense were cornerback Greg Poole and nose guard William Fuller (6-3, 240).

After that opener at Pitt, North Carolina has three straight home games against below average foes, goes to Wake Forest, and then returns home for ACC foes North Carolina State and Maryland. A Nov. 6 road date at Clemson could be the difference between a finish in the top five in the nation or another year of frustration for Elkins and Bryant.

NOTRE DAME — Gerry Faust received a merciless introduction to the difference between coaching high school football and college football last fall. The Fighting Irish, expected to contend for a national championship, could win only five games in 11 tries. But Notre Dame wasn't really that bad. Purdue won 15-14 and Penn State by only a 24-21

count. Southern Cal escaped 14-7. But the Irish were crushed by Michigan and Miami of Florida. All of those foes are on the schedule again this year. So is Pittsburgh, which will host Notre Dame Nov. 6 between a road date at Navy and a home clash with Penn State. That kind of a schedule may simply be too much for a team which still is trying to find a quarterback who can generate some firepower.

Blair Kiel (6-1, 195) is back for his third year as a starter. But it's been an on-again, off-again career. If Kiel is on, the Irish will be much better. They have excellent receivers in tight end Tony Hunter (6-5, 230) and explosive Joe Howard (5-9, 170). Phil Carter, when healthy, is one of the best running backs in the country. There is depth and talent at fullback. Four starters return on the offensive line, including all-star candidates Mike Shiner (6-8, 280) and Tom Thayer (6-5, 270).

Faust is counting on a much more consistent and a quicker defense. He has nine starters back, with the entire front line returning. And two straight years of recruiting the best talent in the USA should provide excellent depth. Linebacker Mark Zavagnin (6-2, 230) should carry on the Irish tradition at that position. And there are few defensive backfields with a better combo than Stacey Toran (6-4, 205), Dave Duerson (6-3, 200) and Rod Bone (6-2, 200).

OHIO STATE — Earle Bruce had All-American quarterback Art Schlichter for three years and had nothing but frustration the last two. Now Schlichter is gone. But the Buckeyes may be ready to reclaim the Big 10 championship and take Bruce back to the Rose Bowl. Nine returning starters on offense and eight on defense are the big reasons. But a favorable schedule helps. OSU will be at home against Purdue, Wisconsin and Michigan, three of the top contenders for the league title. And once again the Buckeyes do not have to play Iowa, the defending league champion.

Replacing Schlichter, of course, is the big problem for Bruce. But those who have watched sophomore Michael Tomczak (6-2, 190) say not to worry. He could be another superstar. In his high school career Tomczak accounted for 6,432 yards and 46 touchdowns. He'll have one of the nation's top split ends to throw to in Gary Williams (6-2, 210), who caught 50 passes last year.

Taking some of the pressure off the new quarterback will be running backs Tim Spencer, flanker Cedric Anderson, a pair of outstanding tight ends and running back Jimmy Gayle. There are also four starters back on the line, led by All-American hopeful Joe Lukens (6-4, 260) at guard.

But it was the defense which caused Buckeye fans so much grief last year. Purdue scored 33 points and lost by 12. Minnesota won against OSU, 35-31. Florida State outscored the Buckeyes 36-27. Wisconsin won 24-21. Linebackers Marcus Marek (6-2, 230) and Glenn Cobb (6-3, 220) rank as two of the best in the country and Bruce can build around those. Tackle Jerome Foster (6-3, 260) is one of the Big 10's best. Four starters are back in the secondary, including Kelvin Bell (6-2, 190). If Ohio State gets off to a fast start against the likes of Baylor, Michigan State, Stanford and Florida State (all but Michigan State at home), look out!

PENN STATE — Coach Joe Paterno last year had a team which defeated Nebraska in Lincoln, 30-24; edged Notre Dame, 24-21; and routed then top-ranked Pitt 48-14 in Pittsburgh. The Nittany Lions also made short work of Marcus Allen and Southern Cal. But Paterno bit off one more bite than he could chew. Alabama out-quickened PSU in

the Lions' den, 31-16, and Penn State felt that blow all the way to the final ratings.

This year the schedule is just as imposing. And no matter how good Paterno's club is going to be, there may be too many stiff challenges to go unbeaten. Four straight home games to open the season will be climaxed by the visit of Nebraska on Sept. 25. That could decide a national title. But Penn State must bounce back from that one to visit Alabama Oct. 9 after a week off. Two weeks later, after hosting Syracuse, the Lions will go to West Virginia. Home games against North Carolina State and Pitt sandwiched around a road trip to the Golden Dome at Notre Dame close the regular season for Paterno and his boys. If they go 11-0 through that one, they ought to be No. 1 no matter what they do in the bowls.

Todd Blackledge (6-4, 225), who outshone Pitt's Dan Marino in a battle of quarterbacks last November, will be back for his junior season at Penn State. He'll have one of the nation's most electrifying receivers in Kenny Jackson (5-11, 175). Tight end Mike McCloskey (6-5, 245) is another good one. But the best athlete in the Penn State offense is tailback Curt Warner (5-11, 195), who rushed for 1,189 yards last year. Jon Williams is an exceptional backup who would be starting for anyone else. The line will undergo some rebuilding, although Bill Contz (6-6, 260) has pro credentials.

There are only five starters back on defense for PSU, but there should be little dropoff in results. Linebackers Steve Seftor (6-1, 230) and Scott Radecic (6-3, 235) are rated among the best to play at Penn State, while Roger Jackson at cornerback is being boomed for All-American honors.

SOUTHERN CAL — Can Sean Salisbury make up for the loss of Marcus Allen? Realistically, that would be asking too much of the sophomore quarterback who has apparently won the starting job away from last year's top man John Mazur. But those who have seen the 6-5, 210-pounder feel he can make his presence felt on the college scene in a hurry. Last year the Trojans could not get enough aerial support for Allen, although most of the time the Heisman Trophy winner did not need it. But there is no heir apparent at tailback in 1982, and Coach John Robinson has admitted his team will go to the pass much more than in the past.

What USC does have is a wealth of talent on the offensive line (what else is new?) and a potentially great defense.

Blocking for Salisbury and a flock of talented running backs (Michael Harper, Fred Crutcher, Zep Lee and Todd Spencer) will be All-American candidates Bruce Matthews (6-5, 265), Don Mosebar (6-7, 280) and Tony Slaton (6-4, 255). Wide receivers Jeff Simmons (6-3, 195) and Malcolm Moore (6-5, 215) should have much better stats with Salisbury throwing.

On defense the Trojans will rely on All-American middle guard George Achica (6-5, 265) to stop up the inside. Jack Del Rio (6-4, 225) drew raves as a freshman last year at end and senior August Curley (6-4, 225) will head a big, mobile linebacking corps. Joey Browner (6-3, 205) has been switched from cornerback to safety.

Once again, however, USC faces a schedule loaded with pitfalls. A Sept. 11 opener at Florida is full of danger, with another road trip to Oklahoma slated for Sept. 25 after a home opener with Indiana. The Trojans must also play at Stanford, Arizona State and Arizona (which beat them last year, 13-10). Southern Cal does not play Washington,

which has gone to the Rose Bowl the past two years. Robinson's team finishes up its probation-marred season with home games against UCLA and Notre Dame.

SOUTHERN METHODIST — The pressure is on the Ponies this year. After stunning the Southwest Conference by beating Texas in Austin two years ago (and helping send Houston to the Cotton Bowl), SMU won the league championship last fall — despite a 9-7 heartbreak loss at home to the Longhorns. Now, with All-American type tailbacks Eric Dickerson and Craig James both returning, the boys from Dallas are expected by many to make it two in a row.

But the Mustangs have a lot of obstacles to overcome. Coach Ron Meyer has gone to the pros and newcomer Bobby Collins must rebuild an offense which has only four legitimate starters back — quarterback Lance McIlhenny joining his two running mates and linemen Joe Beard and Scott Gibson blocking the way up front. How well the Ponies patch up that line will go a long way toward telling how far in the final rankings and the SWC race they'll go.

Defensively, SMU should be one of the best in the Southwest. Seven starters return, led by middle guard Michael Carter (6-2, 265) and Richard Neely (6-5, 250 tackle). The secondary, featuring Russell Carter (six interceptions last year) and Wes Hopkins, should be outstanding. Only the health status of Carter is a major concern. He missed the last part of the 1981 season and has not played since. The schedule hints at a quick getaway for Collins and SMU. Tulane, Texas-El Paso, TCU, North Texas and Baylor give the Mustangs a chance to get honed for a home date with Houston and a road trip to Austin Oct. 16 and 23. Then it will be home to take on Texas A&M in a three-game challenge which could make or break SMU. The Dallas school finishes at home against Arkansas. Collins only hopes that one will be for the conference championship and a trip to the Cotton Bowl.

TEXAS — Cotton Bowl? Texas has eyes for Dallas on Jan. 1, too, after finally making it back to the bowl classic last year when SMU was ineligible for post-season play. There are those this year, however, who feel the Longhorns do not have the defense to win a league championship. Texas without defense? Ridiculous! After opening with Utah, Missouri and Rice, Coach Fred Akers will take his team to Dallas for its annual blood bath against Oklahoma. By that time the rest of the Southwest Conference should know just how good the UT defense is. The Horns got a break in the schedule (at least it looks that way now) when an Oct. 16 game with Arkansas (in between OU and SMU) was moved to December to allow national televising. The fact that Texas plays the Razorbacks, Ponies, Houston and Texas A&M in Austin should not be lost on those making out pre-season ratings.

One reason for optimism in Texas among Texas fans is the return of quarterback Robert Brewer, who came on like gangbusters in the final half of the 1981 season. He fueled an upset of Alabama in the Cotton Bowl with a brilliant individual effort. The Horns hope to get some much needed running punch from the likes of Johnny Walker, Darryl Clark, Terry Orr and freshman blue chipper Anthony Byerly. The line will be anchored by All-American Doug Dawson (6-3, 265), although there is plenty of rebuilding to do there.

Ends Kiki DeAyala (6-1, 235) and Eric Holle (6-5, 240) head the defensive experience, although the best of the

bunch before it's over could be linebacker Jeff Leiding, a 6-4, 235 masher who has already been on some pre-season A-A teams. Ed Williams and Mike Buchanan are back along the front line.

UCLA — One of the most unpredictable teams in the country last year was Terry Donahue's Pac-10 outfit. The Bruins were good enough to embarrass Washington, 31-0, but lost to Stanford (23-26) and tied Washington State (17-17). A last-minute loss to Southern Cal (21-22) kept them from the Rose Bowl in the final week of the season. With eight starters back on both offense and defense, UCLA might be one of those Cinderella teams of 1982.

The schedule includes road dates at Wisconsin, Michigan and Colorado after a home opener against Long Beach State. Then the Bruins will be at home against Arizona, Washington State, Oregon, Stanford and USC the final seven weeks of the season, with travel interruptions at California and Washington. It could be a lot worse. One of the most underrated quarterbacks in the West is Tom Ramsey, who hit 134 of 230 passes last year for 1,739 yards. He'll have great receivers again this fall in Cormac Carney and Jojo Townsell. Tight end Harper Howell is also on hand. Kevin Nelson, brother of first-round draft pick Derrin (Stanford) is back after rushing for 883 yards in only six games last year. He hopes to remain healthy this season. The line will need some patchwork, however, as only Dan Dufour and Blake Wingle return as regulars.

Irv Eatman (6-6, 270) is back at defensive tackle and the Bruins hope he bounces back from a sub-par season in 1981. All three linebackers come back, as do all four starters in the secondary. But experience isn't all the Bruins need in the secondary. They need improvement after giving up nearly 200 yards a game in the air last fall.

WASHINGTON — The Huskies of Coach Don James were supposed to be rebuilding last year. They rebuilt so well that they won the Pac-10 title and the Rose Bowl against Iowa. And they did it with a team that returns 10 starters on offense and nine on defense. Add that to a schedule which starts off with Texas-El Paso, Arizona, Oregon, San Diego State and California (all but Arizona at home), then finishes up with Oregon State, Texas Tech, Stanford, UCLA, Arizona State and Washington State and you can see why James may be smiling a lot more this year.

Steve Pelluer (6-3, 205) learned well as a sophomore. He should be a dominant force in the Pac-10 this year with receivers back like Anthony Allen, Aaron Williams and explosive Paul Skansi. The backs are big, strong, fast and plentiful. Jacque Robinson was the star of the Rose Bowl win over Iowa as a freshman. Ron Jackson was the star all season. They'll run behind the blocking of Don Dow (6-6, 280), Eric Moran (6-6, 285) and Paul Coty (6-3, 265). Kicker Chuck Nelson is a definite plus for the offense.

Linebackers Mark Stewart (a 6-3, 255 All-American) and Ken Driscoll return, along with Tom Burnham. Up front there will be Ray Cattage (6-4, 250) and Scott Garnett (6-3, 260). Ray Horton at cornerback has been recognized on some All-American teams. But he's got plenty of help in Robert Leaphart, Chris O'Connor and Bill Stapleton.

There's an excellent chance the Huskies will be ranked No. 1 in the nation and unbeaten when they entertain UCLA Nov. 6. What happens then, and in the final two games at Arizona State and Washington State, could go a long way toward deciding that national championship. ●

By Randy York

Todd Committed To Christ, Football In Proper Order

As a youngster, Husker receiver wore pads night and day and tore up his father's smokes.



Ainsworth was confused. The Northwest Nebraska community could see the values of its youth crumbling. Temptation was winning too many battles. The town's leaders agreed they needed a moral transfusion. They needed a role model to which all kids could relate.

Ainsworth sought a Nebraska football player to speak at its high school athletic banquet. It wasn't in the market for just any football player. It wanted one who was as committed to his religious constitution as he was to beating Oklahoma. It wanted one who preached morality as much as Orange Bowl.

Todd Brown was the perfect speaker. The Cornhuskers' blond-haired, clutch-catching, three-year split end starter gave Ainsworth what it wanted. He moved his audience by explaining his relationship with Jesus Christ.

Ainsworth flew him into town and "got my testimony," Brown said. "They knew what to expect. They knew how bold I am about my Christian beliefs."

About 40 other Nebraska church groups and high schools heard Brown's testimony last year. He was so popular that during Nebraska's trip to the Orange Bowl, he was asked to speak in Miami three times.

He has shared a speaking platform with Rosey Grier in Omaha and been invited west to North Platte. His hometown of Holdrege has brought Brown back a couple of times to address its youth.

To Brown, the more speaking engagements he can fit into his busy schedule, the better. "I think God has allowed me to play football for the University of Nebraska so I can tell people about it," he said. "Glorifying God is my greatest source of happiness."

Relating his experiences is so important to Brown that he turned down the presidency of the Nebraska chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). "I thought I would have more impact by speaking in more places," he said.

The FCA understood. Brown has been one of its staunchest supporters since his sophomore year in high school. That's why his messages leave

Todd Brown at play. (Photo by Randy Hampton)

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This space has been set aside to keep you up-to-date on the Commemorative Medallion Program. As a subscriber, you should read this section, as it will answer questions you may have concerning medallions.

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such an indelible imprint on high school athletes.

"My sophomore year of high school was the most important year of my life," Brown said. "I was a pretty confused kid. I was trying to find all my happiness through athletics. I was so caught up in them, they were God in my life. I felt a real need for something more."

Brown filled that need by becoming a Christian. It had an immediate effect on the way he perceived everything. "It screwed my head on and gave me a purpose," he said. "When I found Christ, I made Him the God of my life, not athletics. I quit performing for myself and started performing for Him."

Evidence of Brown's strong faith can be found in newspaper clip files. Even when he was the nation's third best high school triple jumper with a state record leap of 52-2½, Brown was talking about Christ, not himself.

His faith made him the successful walk on that he is. Since Brown also was fast enough to beat NU track star Mike Cielocha in the Class B 100-yard dash finals in high school, he had track stardom written all over his jersey.

Several colleges, including Nebraska, offered Brown a full track scholarship. Iowa State was the only major school to offer him a football scholarship. But Brown declined all offers. He was ready to climb the mountain as a football walk on.

"Todd wanted to be a Nebraska Cornhusker since he was 7 or 8 years old," recalled Jim Brown, his father.

When he talked to his parents, it was never a question of IF he was going to the University of Nebraska, it was WHEN he was going.

Football had such a dominating influence on Todd in the second, third and fourth grades that a football uniform was his play clothes. "Every day — winter, spring, summer and fall — he'd put on his football pants, shoes, shoulder pads and a jersey," Jim remembered. "He'd run around and wear it all evening until he had to go to bed."

Even when he got out of that habit, Todd couldn't leave football alone. "In junior high, he organized a little football team in the neighborhood to play kids in other neighborhoods," his father said. "All he talked about was playing football for Big Red. I don't know if you could love football more than he did."

Todd's mother, Millie, might have worried about it, if she hadn't seen her son develop a strong value system to go with his desire to play college football.

"Todd was never a smart-alecky kid," she said. "He was level-headed, even in junior high. He had his times when he was a typical boy, making faces at his mother, but he always knew what direction he was going. You could really tell he was a mature young man his sophomore year in high school."

By that time, Todd had developed some rather strong opinions about drinking and smoking. "He didn't like it and didn't want any part of it," his dad said. "I smoked and Todd finally badgered me into quitting."

Alcohol was equally taboo. "Todd was really against it," his mom said. "It got to the point where his father and I wouldn't have a drink when he was around. His opinions were so strong, it even bothered him when we would go out and have a drink with friends."

Todd Brown, who to this day has never smoked a cigarette or drank a beer, admits his dislike for those habits was once too strong.

"When I was in high school," he remembered, "I'd break my dad's cigarettes and throw 'em away. I hard-timed him into quitting drinking around me. I felt strongly about those things long before I became a Christian. I knew it was wrong for kids. But I really came down on everyone for it."

Time has mellowed the accuser. "I don't hassle people about it now," Todd said. "They know how I feel. They know it's not for me. But it's not my position to say it's not for them. All my friends drink, except for one. It doesn't bother me. It's no big deal anymore."

Brown's two roommates in a fashionable Northwest Lincoln apartment will drink a beer on occasion. Brent Stolz and Stuart Pesek are non football-playing former high school classmates now living with Brown.

"I've known Todd all my life," Stolz said. "The thing about him is he never comes across as better than anyone else. He's a person, not some larger-than-life Nebraska football player. He's very easy to be friends with."

Even though football always has held a big spot in Todd's heart, he is not a football fan in the usual sense. "I never was into the fan scene," he said. "I don't follow pro teams or other players. I just follow the teams we're going to



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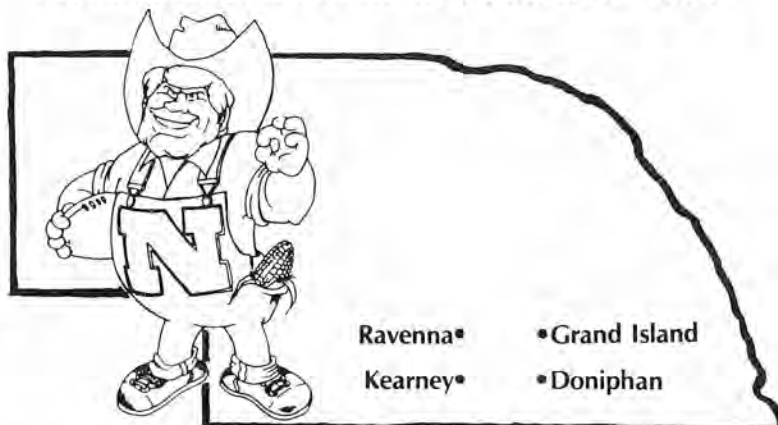
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play and play the game. Monday Night Football has never meant much to me."

Neither has public recognition. "It's nice for everyone to know you, but that gets old awfully fast," Todd said. "There are certain times you'd like to go out and be yourself and you can't. That's still the hardest adjustment in college football. You don't change any, but people view you differently."

Todd, though, can understand preconceived notions. He had some himself before walking-on at Nebraska. "I came to Nebraska weighing 158 pounds and expecting to see superhuman players," he said. "I was here a week when I came to a conclusion: I'm not as good as these guys yet...but I can be. Nebraska has all the facilities you could want. All it takes is the desire and dedication to use them."

Brown decided to capitalize on his desire and dedication. "I thought there were a lot of athletes with more natural ability than I had, even in Holdrege," Brown said. "But I don't know if anybody worked harder than I did. It just meant so much to me. A lot of people get sidetracked with other things. I never did. Maybe that's why I felt so strong about drinking and smoking. I felt like I needed every possible edge I could get. You never know. Maybe that was the fine edge that helped me play."

Brown became an immediate hit as a sophomore, playing 406 minutes and catching 28 passes for 416 yards and five touchdowns. He embellished that reputation with a 23-yard touchdown run in Nebraska's win over Mississippi State in the Sun Bowl.

Last year, Brown's stats fell off on the Huskers' ground-eating drive to the Big Eight championship. He caught 14 passes for 277 yards and three touchdowns.

Two of those 14 catches, however, were vital receptions in the Huskers' 6-0 win at Missouri. The first ball Brown saw coming his way that day was on a third-and-10 situation from the Nebraska 49 on the Huskers' last drive. He caught it and turned it into a 24-yard gain.

One play later, Nebraska quarterback Turner Gill rolled out against a blitzing Tiger defense and completed a 21-yarder to Brown. His momentum carried to the Missouri four-yard line. The clock showed only 1:21 remaining. Even though fullback Phil Bates scored the winning touchdown, Todd Brown was ABC-TV's "Outstanding Player of



Todd Brown at work. (Photo by Randy Hampton)

the Game" for Nebraska.

"It's not easy, having to make a clutch catch on the first catchable ball you see," Brown admitted. "but that's our job. Sure, I'd like to touch the ball more, but I don't concern myself with stats. Winning is really all that matters. It'd be different if we were losing and I wasn't seeing any balls. If that happened, you might see me throw a fit."

This year, if Nebraska loses, Brown believes, "it'll be our own fault. I don't think there's anybody that should beat us. I don't think anybody would have beaten us last year. We beat ourselves with fumbles and penalties."

"It seems like we just keep getting better and better, though," Brown said. "This is as good a team as I've ever been around. It's going to be a shame if we don't win a national championship. We just have to make sure we don't get hung up on that. In this sport, you really do have to take one game at a time."

For Brown, that will be much easier to do this year now that his girlfriend, Michele Robichaud, has moved from Boston to Lincoln over the summer.

Todd met Michele last summer at a former high school teammate's wedding in Boston. It was almost a classic case of love at first sight. But it wasn't made any easier by Michele attending Hartwick College in Oneonta, N.Y.

"We spent a year commuting back and forth and racking up the phone bills," she said. "I got back here for the Florida State and Kansas games. But our phone bills were still going over \$100 and \$200 a month."

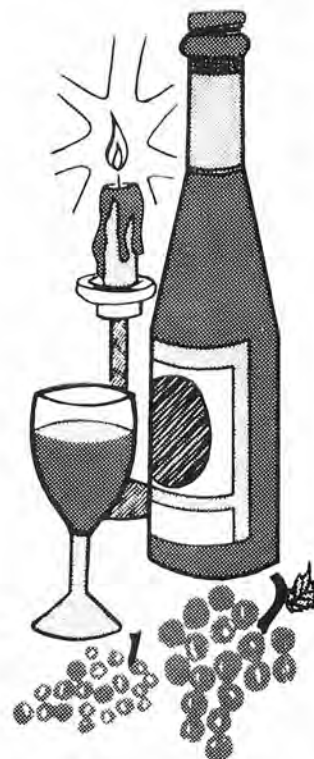
Todd found it easy to talk to the daughter of a high school football and track coach who went through the rigors of three athletic-minded brothers.

When Michele moved to Lincoln, she joked, "because Todd promised me 50 percent of anything he'd make in pro football." Seriously, she said, she enjoys being close to Todd "because I respect him so much and we believe in the same things."

The two knew they should be closer the night after Nebraska lost to Clemson in the Orange Bowl. "That was the longest phone call we ever had — 3½ hours," she said. "Todd was pretty down, but he could handle the losing part. He's such a strong Christian."

He's so strong he doesn't mind anyone knowing. "Choosing your speeches is the hardest thing about speaking," he said. "I try to stay away from groups that want me just to entertain. Whether I'm speaking at a church or a high school, they're going to get my testimony...because that's what makes me tick." •

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Inside Husker Sports

Bob Fehrs felt the wheel of his light plane hit the embankment, and he knew he was in trouble. "I said, 'Oh, gosh' — it wasn't anything stronger than that," he said later from his Lincoln hospital bed.

"The only thing on my mind was making sure the kids didn't get hurt, so I guess that worked out all right," the Nebraska wrestling coach said after his condition was updated from serious to good.

Fehrs, a pilot for two years, was taking his step-son, Gary Zell, 16, and a friend, Steve Weisser, 17, to an Oklahoma high school wrestling clinic in late July and was attempting to land at Expressway Airport on the north side of Oklahoma City.

It was 6:30 p.m., and a haze made visibility poor. He was flying the Piper Archer into an airport. "I had never flown into it before. I had a little difficulty locating it. When I spotted it, we were right up next to it. I felt I had time to cut the engine, put the flaps down and land."

But he was too high, and he was running out of runway. "I tried to abort the landing and go around. I gave it the gun and started to lift up, but I was about six inches shy, and one wheel caught the embankment," Fehrs said.

The plane started to stall out, and Fehrs knew he wouldn't make it. He steered between two trees and slid into a ditch on the other side of the expressway. "It dawned on me that I

was hurt when I couldn't move. I figured something was wrong," he said.

The boys were unhurt, but Fehrs was hospitalized with a compress fracture of the second lumbar vertebra in his lower back. Two teeth were broken. He crawled out and "got poison ivy, too," he said.

"It's going to be a few months before I can wrestle. I figure it'll be about a month before I'll fly again," he said.

More healthy exposure for Dave Rimington: The Huskers' Outland Trophy winner is pictured on the NCAA's 1982 Football Guide.

"It makes me look skinny," Rimington said. The picture, taken when he was a sophomore, shows him hiking the ball to Jeff Quinn. That was about 35 pounds ago for the 285-pound center.

Bobby Reynolds, Nebraska's all-American halfback in the early '50s, underwent open heart surgery at a Lincoln hospital July 29.

The Nebraska gymnastics guide, edited by Terry Beek and Chuck Pool, was voted best in the nation at the College Sports Information Directors Assn. convention in Dallas. Other awards for the SIO office: football poster, third; volleyball guide, fourth; Orange Bowl guide and women's recruiting brochure, fifth.

Once again this fall the University of Nebraska Alumni Association will be hosting the *Husker Huddles* before all NU road games. These are excellent opportunities for Nebraska fans to get to know one another better and have a good time and add to the excitement of Big Red football. The first Huddle will be at Penn State, starting at 10 a.m. with a cash bar in the Sheraton Penn State Inn, 240 South Pugh Street, State College, Pa. There will be a buffet from 10:30 to 12 noon, with a cost of \$6.50 per person.

The other Huddles will include: Auburn, Oct. 2, Heart of Auburn Restaurant and Lounge, 333 South College Street, 10 a.m. cash bar, 10:30 to 12 noon (time is the same for all huddles) buffet, cost \$4; Colorado, Oct. 9, Hilton Harvest House, 1345 28th St., Boulder, Scarlet & Cream Singers, \$6.25 per person; Kansas, Oct. 30, Kansas Union in Lawrence, Kansas University campus, \$6.25; and Iowa State, Nov. 13, ISU Memorial Union in Ames, \$6.25.

All reservations may be made by sending a check payable to the Nebraska Alumni Association to 1520

R Street, Lincoln, NE 68588-0216. Specify which Huddles you wish to attend.

Lincoln East High grad Mary Amen, who will enroll at Nebraska this fall, has been awarded the \$500 Twig Daniel scholarship by the Women's Athletic Department.

Mary was the state cross country champion, second in the 3,200 meters and was a member of a two-time state championship 4x800 relay team.

The men's and women's diving teams will be bolstered by the signing of Texas one-meter champion Eric Ognibene of San Antonio and Vicky Hawkins, the California junior college champ on both boards, from Diablo Valley J.C.

Sophomore wrestler Bill Scherr, who won the Big Eight 190-pound championship and finished fourth nationally, was named Athlete of the Year by the United States Wrestling Federation.

Scherr won the Grand Champion's ring for accumulating the most points

in the USWF championship series. He won the National Open Greco-Roman championship, receiving a trophy for most pins, and finished second in the National Open Freestyle Tournament.

Staff moves: Tony Samuel left the football staff to become defensive line coach at Western Michigan. Craig Bohl, a former Husker defensive back, took Samuel's place as a part-time coach and will serve as defensive coordinator for the jayvees.

L. C. Cole, former defensive end, is back as a volunteer assistant after a stint at Southwest Texas State at San Marcos.

Don Bryant's 1982 Nebraska Football Guide, a 298-page effort this year, is on sale to the public for \$4.50.

The Guide, a perennial award winner for the Sports Information Office, is a "must" for serious students of Nebraska football. Checks should be made payable to the University of Nebraska and mailed to: Athletic Ticket Office, P.O. Box 82848, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, 68588. •



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Man, Woman And Child; KFAB's Bid Left 'Em Counting Their Change



Vet Bremser held the winning hand.

Omaha station's exclusive broadcast rights package is said to be the nation's largest; resulting network expected to rank No. 1, too.

A Nebraska press box without Lyell Bremser? Lyell Bremser without a headset on a Cornhusker football Saturday afternoon? Lyell Bremser sitting in the stands and all those earphones in Memorial Stadium without a single "man, woman and child" and "he left him counting his change?"

"That crossed my mind. I'd thought about it numerous times," said Bremser, whose graphic descriptions of Nebraska games have been an institution for listeners on Omaha radio station KFAB for 44 years.

"Would I be able to sit in the stands, or would I just go to the golf course? I don't honestly know. I knew it would be traumatic," Bremser said.

At 64, Bremser had arrived at a broadcasting crossroads. The university, belatedly following an economy-dictated national trend, had decided to end its long-standing policy of allowing multiple broadcasts by originating stations of Cornhusker games and solicited bids for exclusive rights, starting with

the 1983 season.

Bremser agonized over the possibility that this season might be his last. It wasn't much easier for Don Bryant, the Husker assistant athletic director and sports information director who was on a three-man committee in charge of arrangements.

"It was one of the most difficult things for all of us because it involved people we had dealt with for a long time and were very good personal friends. Somebody was going to win, and somebody was going to lose. You don't like to see your friends hurt," Bryant said.

Bremser said, "If I had felt worn out or was getting senile and couldn't do it any more, if I was not physically capable of doing it, it wouldn't be such a blow to the system. But it's been a real upper for me, something I thoroughly enjoy."

Bremser was spared the stadium seat-golf course decision when the Board of Regents, in a late July session, accepted a KFAB proposal and awarded the

Omaha station exclusive broadcast rights in football and basketball for five years.

Bremser, as vice president and general manager of the station, had taken the high road. The estimated \$2.7 million, five-year broadcast package would be the fattest of its kind in the nation, according to administration and radio industry sources.

Moreover, Bremser said, a planned Cornhusker network, with KFAB as the flagship station, could realistically include more than 50 stations in 15 states, which also would rank as tops nationally.

Nebraska administration officials were overwhelmed and delighted by the magnitude of the KFAB proposal. Contracts with KFAB, Lincoln stations KLIN and KFOR and Omaha's WOW netted \$44,000 for football and \$2,000 from the former three in basketball in 1981.

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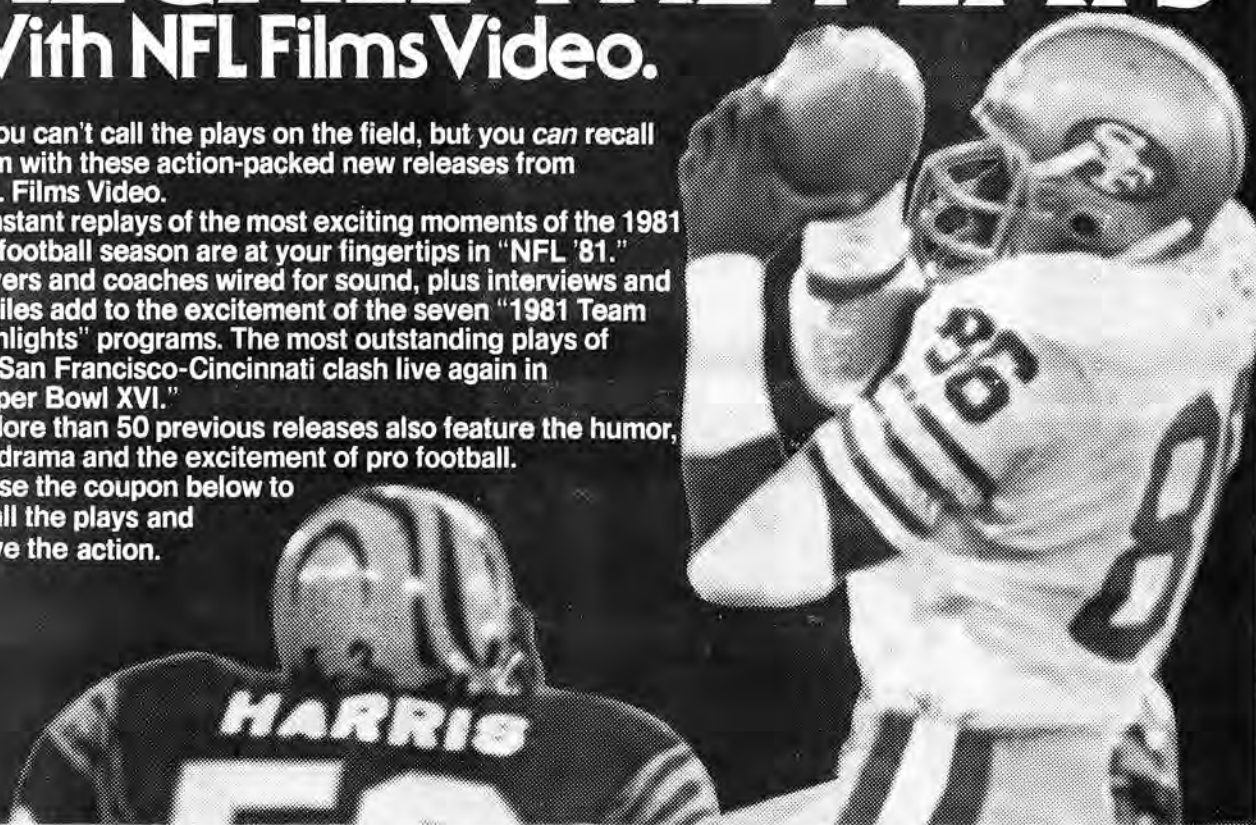
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1981 Team Highlights

☐ Cincinnati Bengals/"Stripes"

Football fans can find out just how great a team the 1981 Bengals were as they posted a 12-4 regular season record and won their first AFC Championship. They were led by second year Head Coach Forrest Gregg, the NFL's top-rated passer in Ken Anderson, and their bruising 1,000 yard rusher, Pete Johnson.

☐ Dallas Cowboys/"Star-Spangled Cowboys"

Dallas recaptured the NFC Eastern Division Championship thanks to Tony Dorsett's 1,646 yards rushing, Danny White's continued development, free-agent Everson Walls' sensational rookie year performance, and All-Pro performances by Randy White and Ed "Too Tall" Jones.

☐ Miami Dolphins/"Champions of the AFC East"

The 1981 Dolphins won the AFC Eastern Division with a strong defense and their "Woodstock" offense featuring quarterback Don Strock coming off the bench time and again to relieve David Woodley. One of the greatest games in NFL history, Miami's heartbreaking 41-38 overtime loss to San Diego, is highlighted in this tape.

☐ New York Giants/"A Giant Step"

The Giants' first appearance in NFL post-season play in almost 20 years was inspired by newcomers Rob Carpenter and rookie linebacker Lawrence Taylor, the "NFL's Defensive Rookie of the Year."

☐ New York Jets/"Talk of the Town"

New York had the top-ranked defense in the AFC, the "NFL Defensive Player of the Year" in Joe Klecko, and the "NFL Comeback Player of the Year" in gutsy quarterback Richard Todd.

☐ San Diego Chargers/"Cliffhangers, Comebacks, and Character"

The 1981 Chargers had the most prolific offense in NFL history and were the only team to repeat as division champions in 1981. Fouts, Muncie, Winslow, Johnson, and Kelcher each had All-Pro years. The thrilling 41-38 overtime playoff victory over Miami highlights the program.

☐ San Francisco 49ers/"A Very Special Team"

Who were those guys who came out of nowhere and won the NFC Championship? This program shows you how the key ingredients came together for the 49ers in 1981—brilliant Head Coach Bill Walsh, "NFC Player of the Year" Joe Montana, Dwight Clark, the league leader in receptions, the 3 defensive secondary rookies who played sensationally, and newcomers Jack Reynolds and Fred Dean.

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Eight champions deserve a championship proposal," Bremser said.

"We didn't want any doubts about where we were coming from. Nebraska football and basketball have been a big, big part of KFAB for quite a few years. Our listeners have counted on us.

"We took the position that we couldn't afford to take a chance. We didn't want to leave anything to doubt," he said.

Nebraska had been gradually increasing its radio rights fees from the current four outlets in recent years, but it was last in the Big Eight to put exclusive rights up for bid and therefore tap a greater resource.

Bryant, University Information Director Bob Bruce and Jack Goebel, vice chancellor for business and finance were charged with working up the plan.

Multiple outlets also have become an unwieldy burden for press box overseers in recent years. "We've had to fight, squeeze, beg, steal and put people on the roof to get our guys in," Bryant said.

For instance, Hawaii has refused credentials for WOW, KFAB and KFOR this fall. KLIN's request was granted because it was submitted first. "We're fighting for the other three,"

Bryant said.

"Iowa is the only school I'm aware of that has more than we do," Bryant said. (He will try to accommodate eight Iowa and five Nebraska stations, including university station KRNU, for the season opener.)

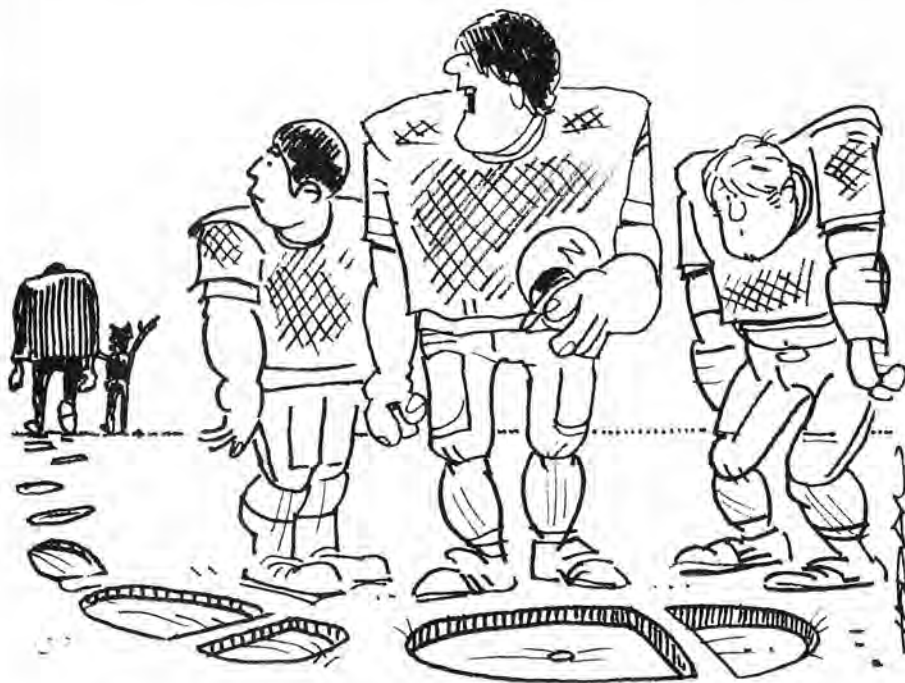
"Economic conditions prompted it as much as anything. It's been obvious for quite some time that we haven't been getting the radio rights revenue the football program merits," Bryant said. "All of our stations recognized the necessity for getting more. The only question was how we were going to do it.

"The cooperation and counsel from the stations was friendly and warm. It was a class act all the way."

At first, the athletic department proposed that the status quo be maintained, with the four current stations "dividing x numbers of dollars four ways," Bryant said. That idea was nixed by two stations. So was a proposal to split the fee according to a percentage of gross income over the last three years.

Eventually, the four original stations and KLMS of Lincoln, which had expressed an interest in originating broadcasts in recent years, were invited to submit proposals.

KFAB won hands-down with a five-



"I'M PRETTY SURE THAT NEW WALK-ON CAN MAKE THE TEAM !!!"

year plan calling for \$475,000 per year, plus an annual 8 percent estimated increase based on the Consumer Price Index. The total ran to \$2,786,635, plus promotional support that will include an hour-long game highlights program Saturday nights when the station covers "about half the country," Bremser said.

KLIN, which currently packages the Nebraska Football Network, was runner-up with a three-year bid at \$301,000 per year, followed by WOW's three-year plan starting at \$258,000, KLMS' five-year package starting at \$200,000 and KFOR's \$205,000 with increases over three years.

"It's important to stress that all of the bids were super. Any one of them by itself, we would have been overwhelmed," Bryant said. "All of them demonstrated great support for the university."

"We feel we have the best radio contract in college football. We haven't heard of any better. It's one they'll all be shooting at in the future."

Bremser, meanwhile, had sat in the stands during Husker bowls games, when radio coverage was limited to the national networks, and he didn't much like it. "That was tough on me, but that was just a one-shot deal," he said.

Because the participants were bidding blind, Bremser solicited input from station colleagues. "I had to make sure I didn't allow my emotions to color my judgment. Who knows what I might have bid?"

"We agonized over it and finally decided we were spinning our wheels and blowing our minds trying to figure what it's worth to the man on the street. We finally threw it all in the trash can and decided what it was worth to us to have it and what it would cost us if we didn't have it," he said.

The resulting network, Bremser said, "will be as big as we can make it, but we're not going to ask anybody to pick us up and lose money doing it. It's going to be reasonable, and if it's fairly priced and done right, there should be no problem at all."

So Bremser, who broadcast his first Nebraska game in 1938 at the age of 20, has an agreement that will extend his connection with Nebraska football to half a century.

"Sure there's a limit somewhere, but that's up to the good Lord to tell me when. I haven't felt any twinges yet. I'm having too much fun," he said. ●

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CONTINUED FROM 36

here. Whatever it takes to do something, these kids are prepared to do it. The coaches out here expect discipline, and they demand it."

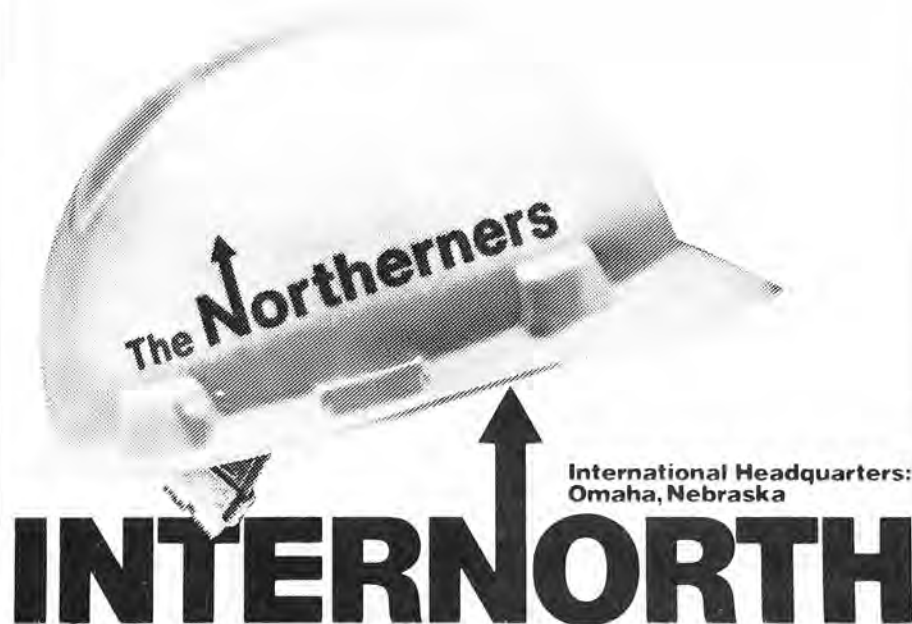
Thorell is also a disciplinarian, and likewise is impressed with the caliber of athlete he has coached since taking over when Alvarez moved to Mason City.

"You have to look at the kids themselves to understand the Lexington athletic tradition," Thorell said. "All those kids down at Nebraska now are very determined kids. They set goals, and they work to attain them. I've talked to some of them about attending other schools, but that's the farthest thing from their dream. They want to go to Nebraska and nowhere else. There are some pretty disappointing times, but they seem to keep their determination and drive."

Thorell sees the Murphy and Holbrook stories as the most amazing of any Lexington contributions to Nebraska football.

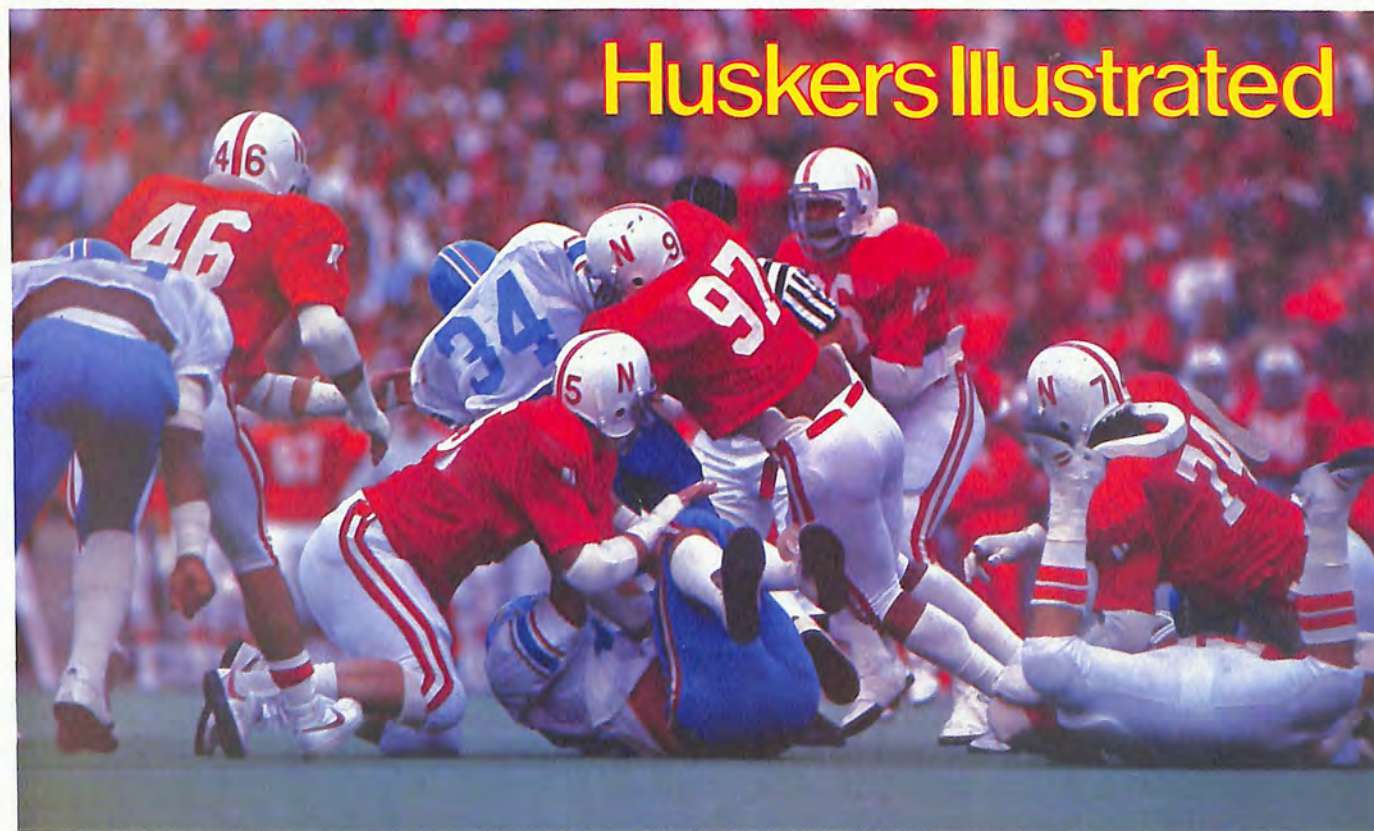
"Murphy and Holbrook really didn't have the ability the others had. When Murphy left Lexington, he was a skinny kid. He kept that desire to make the team, and worked hard to do it," Thorell said. "We're proud as the devil of those kids. When Murphy came out at No. 1 cornerback, everybody said it wouldn't last. Why not? I'll tell you why. With his dedication, he'll be up with the first two units. You can bet on that."

"If I ever name my weightroom after anybody, it'll be the Rob Stuckey weightroom," Thorell said. "He didn't necessarily have all the abilities as a young kid, but he worked. I'd see him out running in the morning, two miles, summer or winter. I remember when I'd open the weight room at 6:30 p.m., there he would be, sitting in his old white car waiting for me. He'd walk right by me and never say a word. That's the way these kids are. When they want something. They don't ask. They just do it." •



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Solich's Troops Pay Price For Successes

Big Eight rivals want no part of young Huskers; UNO and junior colleges are only willing foes.

WANTED: Top quality junior varsity or freshmen football opponents. Can also be junior college teams needing to fill open dates. Will play anybody, any time, any place. References available on request. Contact Frank Solich, University of Nebraska freshman football coach.

By Mike Babcock

Franks Solich hasn't taken out a classified ad just yet. But he may be forced to do so the next time he tries to put together a schedule for his junior varsity football team.

Few schools are interested in scheduling the Cornhuskers' highly-successful junior varsity, even though it's comprised almost entirely of freshmen.

Solich is learning the hazards of winning all the time. Pretty soon, no one is willing to play, and filling out a five-game junior varsity schedule becomes as difficult as teaching an eager freshman defensive end that patience and discipline are virtues, especially when he's trying to contain a wishbone offense.

Varsity coaches know what teams they'll be playing 10 years from now; Solich, however, didn't finalize his team's schedule for this fall until the middle of the summer. The problem was lining up a fifth game, something the NCAA requires of schools with coaching staffs the size of Nebraska's. To have a junior varsity program, teams must play at least a four-game schedule.



Frank Solich

The most a junior varsity team can play is five games, and since practice for incoming freshmen began Aug. 10, "we try to keep the games somewhat close together," said Solich. Playing in November makes for a long fall, even with two freshmen-redshirt scrimmages to break the monotony of practice.

A big part of Solich's scheduling problem results from an inability to find any Big Eight Conference school willing to play the Cornhusker freshmen. Oklahoma State was the last conference school to play the Nebraska junior varsity, and now even the Cowboys refuse. "Some schools don't have the numbers we have," Solich said by way of explanation. "As a result, it got to the point where we were beating those teams fairly soundly for several years in

a row, and they didn't want their athletes to begin their college careers that way."

In 1979, Solich's first season as the NU junior varsity coach, the Cornhuskers played three Big Eight opponents, losing to a Missouri team bolstered by sophomores and juniors (19-13) and defeating Kansas (17-8) and Kansas State (33-0). The scheduling problem became acute in 1980 after Nebraska defeated its only conference junior varsity opponent, Oklahoma State, 62-7 in Stillwater.

Missouri dropped off the JV schedule rather than travel to Lincoln as part of a home-and-home agreement with the Cornhuskers. Of the Nebraska junior varsity's seven losses since 1962, five have been to Missouri and four have come in Columbia.

In light of the schools' varsity rivalry, Oklahoma's junior varsity team would seem a logical, and obviously attractive, conference opponent for Nebraska. But the Sooners are as unwilling as Missouri to send their freshmen to Lincoln for a home-and-home series, preferring instead to stay close to Norman. "They don't want to travel," said Solich.

"They'll play Oklahoma State twice and go just across the border to play teams in Texas." Oklahoma's long-standing junior varsity travel philosophy is "to take a sack lunch along and eat it on the bus ride home," Solich said.

Kansas provided occasional junior varsity competition for the Cornhuskers, even winning (19-18) at Lawrence in 1976. But the Jayhawks sent Solich scrambling for a fifth opponent in 1980 when they cancelled out the week before a scheduled game, complaining of seriously-depleted numbers. The series has not been resumed.

Triton College, a good Illinois junior college, bailed out Solich in 1980 by agreeing to visit Lincoln — and absorbing a 63-34 loss.

Solich hopes new Colorado head coach Bill McCartney will have a different attitude about junior varsity programs and eventually provide Nebraska with a regular opponent. As soon as McCartney was hired to replace Chuck Fairbanks, who had no JV program, Solich put in a phone call to Boulder. McCartney has not returned the call, but "I'm sure he has more important things to worry about right now," said Solich.

This year's schedule almost included a game with the Air Force Academy junior varsity. Solich thought he had it set for Sept. 24 in Colorado Springs. "We tried to bend over backwards," he said. "It was going to be one game out there because they wouldn't agree to come back here next year."

A scheduling conflict on the 24th, however, caused a delay, and the next thing Solich knew, "it had gotten to the point where they didn't want to play us at all." So much for the Falcons.

Solich also tried adding either Wichita State or Arkansas to his schedule but to no avail. When NU offensive backs coach Mike Corgan paid a visit to South Bend, Ind., he heard Notre Dame had an opening on its junior varsity schedule, but what would have been a financially-lucrative JV game became another dead-end disappointment. "Coach (Tom) Osborne even called (Notre Dame head coach) Gerry Faust to see about the possibility of our (junior varsity) teams playing," said Solich.

"We're willing to travel."

That was unnecessary last season, and the Cornhusker junior varsity will go on the road only once this fall, taking a 50-mile drive to Omaha where it will play the University of Nebraska-Omaha jayvees. UNO has been a reliable opponent since 1974, playing the Cornhuskers every year except one and agreeing to play twice in 1980 so Nebraska could have its five-game schedule. According to Solich, "Coach (Sandy) Buda has been very cooperative."

Aside from UNO, Solich has had more luck in scheduling junior colleges, three of which are tentatively set to play the Cornhusker freshmen this fall. Ellsworth Junior College from Iowa Falls, Iowa, and Waldorf College, from Forest City, Iowa, were also on the Nebraska junior varsity schedule last fall; Independence, Kan., Junior College is a new opponent.

Junior colleges make good opponents not only because they provide stiff competition — McCook JC defeated the NU junior varsity 21-13 in 1969 at Lincoln — but because they also give Nebraska coaches an opportunity to see potential transfers in action. For instance, defensive tackle Henry Waechter, a Chicago Bears' draft pick, played two seasons at Waldorf before becoming a Cornhusker. Former NU fullback Phil Bates, now with the

Detroit Lions, played at both Ellsworth and Waldorf.

Whoever provides the opposition, Nebraska's junior varsity team should be strong this season. Bolstered by a quality walkon program. Solich has good depth and enough freshmen that he needn't use upperclassmen. The fall freshman roster "will be a little larger than it was last year," he said, adding: "It's still a very workable number."

Two in that number got a headstart on their freshman teammates. Stan Parker, a tight end from Bellevue, Neb., East High School and Pernell Gatson, an all-state quarterback from Omaha, Neb., Central High School, enrolled in summer classes at Nebraska. By so doing, "we got a one-semester class out of the way in five weeks," said Gatson.

He and Parker also established their study habits under the direction of academic counselor Dr. Ursula Walsh and got to know the varsity athletes in Lincoln for the summer. As a result, they won't get lost trying to find their classes, and they are no longer in awe of the Cornhusker varsity football players.

"When you first come here, it's like, 'Wow! There's Jamie Williams, there's Roger Craig, there's Mike Rozier,'" Parker said. "I was saying things like that, too; it's only natural. But now Pernell and I have got that all out of our systems. A lot of guys aren't exposed to the (varsity) players before they get here."

"We're really lucky. We don't feel like freshmen anymore, and we can talk to the big-name players. They're just guys like us. Of course, we're not real shy, either," he added with a smile.

Parker and Gatson decided to get an early start in college on the advice of senior running back Roger Craig, who helped recruit the two and, as a result, "I think he feels somewhat responsible for them now," said Dr. Walsh.

Gatson and Parker made the trips from Omaha to Lincoln together, trained together and went to a summer school English class together. This fall, they're rooming together, and they share a singular goal.

"We want to dedicate ourselves to football," Gatson said.

According to Craig, one of the most gregarious Cornhuskers, getting started early will help Gatson and Parker make it through that first fall semester, the toughest in an athlete's college career. More athletes would start early, Dr.

Walsh said, but NCAA rules prohibit scholarship money from being used until the fall semester, and the athletes must pay their own way in summer school.

Rob Stuckey, a defensive tackle on the varsity who was redshirted last season, started early, and "he may graduate in 3½ years," said Walsh. A straight-A student, Stuckey could finish a master's degree at the same time he completes his football eligibility.

Parker is excited about playing football at Nebraska, even though people in Bellevue "are skeptical when I tell them I'm going to Nebraska. They say they'll never hear from me again, that I'll just fade away down here and get lost in the shuffle."

Other schools try to use that argument in recruiting against Nebraska, telling athletes they'll lose their identity in numbers swollen by eager walkons. Not so, said Gatson. "I like a lot of competition, and I've talked to a lot of other guys who feel the same way."

Gatson wants to be a quarterback in a program which will have Turner Gill and Nate Mason for two more seasons and Craig Sundberg for the next three. He is one of two scholarship recruits who is likely to battle for the starting job with the junior varsity — the other is Don Douglas.

In that context, "when people find out I'm going to Nebraska, they always say, 'So you're going to switch positions?' And I tell them, 'Not that I know of,'" said Gatson. "I know there's going to be a lot of competition."

"Nebraska will let you stay at a position as long as you like," Parker said. "They won't make you switch. They leave that up to you."

The Cornhuskers' junior varsity program is designed to help the freshmen learn their strengths and weaknesses so they can make decisions about which positions would be best for them. Solich attempts to play every freshman in every game so that "we can get a real good look at everybody through the course of a season, and so they will have a good idea of whether they can become varsity players."

Despite the varsity promotions, Solich isn't worried about having enough quality freshmen to play Nebraska's junior varsity schedule. He has plenty of good players. His real problem is finding opponents. ●



Runners Won't Get Slower; Timer Just More Accurate

New electronic timing device is a product of cooperation between the Athletic Department and College of Engineering, and a savings, too.

The :04.33, freshman I-back Paul Miles ran during winter conditioning to become the fastest Cornhusker in history may hold up as a school record for a generation, maybe longer.

"I suppose the day of the :04.3 for 40 yards is over...at least for now," Husker Strength Coach Boyd Epley said.

That's progress.

With an assist from the College of Engineering, the Huskers have gone electronic in measuring athletes' speed. The human element has been eliminated. No longer will coaches armed with stop watches, with varied reflexes, record the data.

As in track, when electronic timing devices were introduced, dash times will be slower because reaction time at the start has been eliminated.

The College of Engineering built the prototype timing device, mostly from parts on hand, and assisted the Athletic Department in acquiring and assembling parts for its own timer this spring.

"The resources within the university are tremendous. I'd be a fool not to take advantage of it. Many, many departments are willing to help," Epley said.

The interdepartmental assistance was initiated when an engineering student approached Epley for help with a project in studying occupational lower back

stress. "We were interested in doing some research on lifting," said Dr. Michael W. Riley, associate professor of Industrial and Management Systems Engineering.

"The student came back and told us what they've got over there (in the weight room)," Riley said.

Epley said, "Mike called and thanked us for being nice to one of their students and asked if there was anything they could do for us. I said there sure is."

Epley had been checking into electronic timers. The Dallas Cowboys had one that cost \$10,000. Jerry Fritz, a technician in the Engineering College, went to work on it and produced one for \$2,000.

The engineers observed the winter conditioning timing with hand-held watches "to get a better feel for what the needs were," Riley said. "Standing at the finish line, you hear the watches going, 'Click, click, click.' The electronic timer eliminates the hand-eye coordination of the coaches."

"We've rotated the coaches to make it more consistent, but you still have the human factor," Epley said.

Riley said, "It's really very simple. We had an electronic timer in the lab that we use for all kinds of things. Most recently, we've been timing hand movements, reactions. It's like a home-intruder, electronic eye, device."

A foot switch was wired up to ac-

tivate the timer at the starting line. The runner places his hand on a pad, and the clock starts when the pressure is released.

A switch at the finish line was modified electronically to close instantaneously to eliminate a 3/1000th-second delay in a relay.

When the runner crosses the optical beam, the time is recorded by a digital reading.

"It took the technicians a couple of hours to put it together," Riley said.

"This is just the beginning," Epley said. "The \$2,000 is for a top-notch diagnostic system hooked up to our computer."

Riley said, "We're trying to work together on some research projects in the future. That's our major interest. We'd be interested in seeing the data to see what the trends are. My interest is in the human work physiology."

"But you also have to be a football fan to live around here."

The grand plan is to station timing devices at intervals through 40 yards and tie them into the computer to measure velocity and acceleration. "It can be used as a diagnostic tool to see where they need help," Riley said.

Epley added: "Your imagination is your only limitation. You can ask a runner his name when he first gets here, put it on a diskette, and he'll have all the data on his progress for his whole life."

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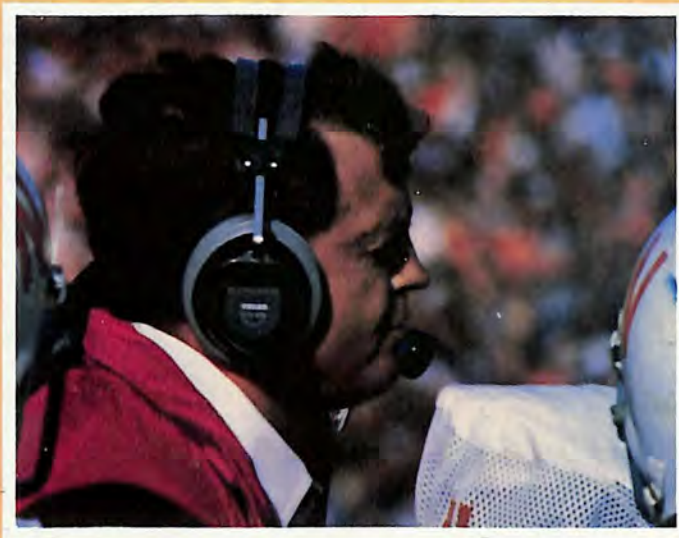
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Ask Tom Osborne

In 1978, the NCAA adopted a freshman redshirt rule. Linebackers Steve Damkroger and Steve McWhirter, tight end Jamie Williams and split end Todd Brown took advantage of it and sat out that year, leaving them with four years of varsity eligibility. The rule lasted one year. It will be reinstated this fall. How do you like it?

"I have mixed feelings about it. I guess the way it's been has been good for us, particularly with a good freshman team, but it does give some players a chance to play for four years.

"We're going to make it optional. We're not going to redshirt all of our freshmen. Most of them will play freshman football, and then the ones who need to will redshirt as sophomores and the others will go through in four years.

"The last time we had it, we had four players choose to redshirt, and the others went ahead and played freshman ball."

Nebraska has been established as an odds-on favorite to repeat as champions of the Big Eight and seriously contend for the national championship. The Huskers were

avored by writers and broadcasters in the league office's midsummer poll and 13 of 17 on a Big Eight Magazine panel picked your team. Do you enjoy the heavy favorite role?

"No, I don't particularly enjoy it. I don't think anybody does, but it's a sign, though, that most people think we have good players. I hope that assessment is correct.

"The positive thing is, if you start out high and keep winning, it's easier to get to the top. On the other hand, it often-times raises expectations to an unrealistic degree. If we had this same football team and a little different schedule, I'd feel a little better.

"The problem is, we're going to play a difficult schedule this year, and a lot of people are expecting a team that is not capable of losing. I don't see it that way. We're going to have to scramble in a lot of ball games and have a lot of close, hard-fought games."

Most evenings during the summer, a group of about 25 or 30 players, sometimes more, meets at Memorial Stadium for informal practices without the coaches. Is attendance mandatory? And is it getting to the point where it's necessary to remain on campus year-round to play at

Nebraska?

"I don't know that there were any more players here than there have been the last four or five years. It's important that they're somewhere with a good weight facility.

"A lot of them don't need to get very far away from the weight room, but there's absolutely no demand on anybody to stay here.

"The only demand we do make is that if a player is academically ineligible at the end of May, we expect him to stay and go to summer school, and we probably had seven or eight players like that. Most all of our players were in pretty good shape by the end of the first summer session.

"We give them a summer workout program in May before they go home, but there's no teeth in it. They do it on their own. It's very difficult to go check on them and see if they're doing their prescribed running and lifting.

"It's a recommended program. Of course when they come back in the fall, we expect that they'll run a mile and a half in a certain time, and they'll have been expected to maintain their strength and size."

In a summer newspaper article, Hayden Fry, coach of opening opponent Iowa, was most complimentary when asked about Nebraska.

Quarterback Turner Gill, he said, was "fantastic." Roger Craig and Mike Rozier "might be the best two backs in the country." Center Dave Rimington is the "best blocking lineman in the country." There is "no coach in the country I respect more as a coach and as a person" than you. How do you take such flattery?

"It's nice to have people say nice things about you, but you have to bear in mind that those comments aren't going to make much difference once the ball's teed up.

"And if he was playing UNO, he'd be saying the same thing. That's Hayden Fry."

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you have questions for Coach Tom Osborne, write to the *Huskers Illustrated*, Box 83222, Lincoln, NE 68501. We reserve the right to select only those questions we feel appropriate.



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